THE
ENGLAND
TUAL
urance Co.
treet, Boston.
.....$9,853,000
.....$460,000
00,000.
single lives.
ties of premium, modes of in
apply personally or by letter at
F. STEVENS,
PRESIDENT
, MEDICAL EXAMINER.
HE
nd Trust Co.,
ire & Water Streets,
TON.
.....$300,000.
ease to $1,000,000.
llowed on Deposits subject to
per cent. on Special Deposits
x months.
DIRECTORS.
.....AMOS A. LAWRENCE
RESIDENTS.
FEARING JOHN O. LEE
ECTORS.
MARTIN BRIMMER,
DAVID SEARS,
AMOS W. STETSON,
CHARLES U. COTTING,
J. LEWIS STACKPOLE,
JAMES J. STORROW,
JACOB EDWARDS.
WHITNEY,
JACOB H. LOUD, Actuary.
retary. 12t-oct26
Insurance Co.,
invested $300,000, insure
on RISKS, not exceeding $30,000
& Devonshire Street,
ctors.
Nathaniel Hooper
George H. Kuhn,
John A. Lowell,
Robert M. Mason
James Mcdiggor,
Samuel W. Pomt,
Benjamin F. White
Marshall P. Wilder.
HA WHITNEY, President.
mh2-1y
MINGHAM,
AN PHYSICIAN,
ridge St., Boston,
mbers Street.)
NDAYS, examinations gratis
Store open from 8 A. M. to
residence on North Second
e, New Bedford, Thursdays,
he his friends
ment can only be procured at the
je15-52t
Y & TILDEN,
Manufacturers and
Wholesale Dealers in
SPICES,
CREAM TARTAR,
Baking Powders,
Etc. Etc.
Proprietors of the Celebrated
Mineral
AND
AVORITE SOAPS,
Market St., Boston.
OSTON
EDICAL
STITUTE
E, BOSTON, MASS.
established in 1846, to se
perfection in the practic
medies, and to secure a
amilies and invalids could
dvice, and such remedies
without the use of poison
physician of this Institu
, now twenty-five years,
celieve, without parallel,
ven to Scrofula, Catarrh,
aints, Seminal Weakness,
Nervous Debility, Rheumatism,
iseases of the Skin, Spine,
rin, and all Diseases of the
ach, Throat, Lungs, and
Pamphlet, descriptive of
per treatment, will be sent
Diseases of the Hair and
ts of using injurious prepa-
the ignorant, using
AIR
STORER
, GREENE,
ple Place, Boston, Mass.
ES & CO.,
NEERS,
, Mass.,
OF REAL AND PERSONAL
of the County, on reasonable
MS FOR SALE in Concord
oct26-tf
s Oil Blacking
ESSING.
penetrating and water-proofing
Boots, Shoes, &c. It
and mouldy leather, making it
ble, and by blacking that can
ish equal. It will not stain
ess Manufacturers and Gro
ld by the
CAPITOL OIL CO.,
North Woburn, Mass
PITMAN,
LY, MASS.,
Fancy FOWLS and EGGS
B. Leghg. Hen Wilson S.
nov2-52t
WRINGERS,
to $12.
Machines,
to $15.
aired or Exchanged.
THAYER'S,
42 Elm Street.
part of Wild's Hotel.
the Weed "Family
rite"
JEFFORDS
MACHINE.
adapted to the wants of
Tailoring purposes." The
Feathering is envied by a
ers of Sale very liberal
SEWING MACHINE CO
TYLER, Agt.
mar2-1y
sical Presents!
Box.
sting from $5.00 to $100.00
ty piccolo and harmonicas.
Prices from $4.50 to $75.00.
struments $5.00 to $50.00.
and Girls.)
Accordeons or Flutti-
re, Fingerlets, Fifes.
nd of the best manufacture,
ock of
RUMENTS,
by
HAYNES & CO.,
pp. Court House,) Boston.
Notices
f Massachusetts
Probate Court.
and all other persons in-
ON WOODS, late of Acton,
testate
has been made to said Court
administration on the estate of
ens of Chelmsford, in
ppear at a Probate Court to
ld county of Middlesex, on
next, at nine o'clock before
you have, against granting
ohy directed to give public
this citation once a week
in the newspaper called the
rinted at Boston, the last
least, before said Court.
OOKS, Esq., Judge of said
of January, in the year one
enty-three.
J. H. TYLER, Regist

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN

AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE, HORTICULTURE, THE FARM, THE GARDEN, THE FIRESIDE, RURAL LIFE, LITERATURE, USEFUL ARTS, NEWS, &C.

VOLUME XXXII.:::NO. 19. BOSTON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1873. WHOLE NUMBER 1631.

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN AND NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

Official Organ of the N. E. Agricultural Society.

ISSUED WEEKLY AT

51 & 52 North Market Street, Boston.

(Opposite Faneuil Hall.)

GEO. NOYES, Proprietor and Publisher.

TERMS: $2 50 per annum in advance. $3 00 if not paid in advance. Single copies SIX CENTS.

☞ No paper discontinued, except at the option of the publisher, until all arrearages are paid.

☞ The Ploughman offers great advantages to advertisers. Its circulation is large, and among the most active and enterprising portion of the community.

TERMS OF ADVERTISING. One square, of eight lines, one month, $1 00; each subsequent insertion, 50 cents.

☞ A liberal discount made on large orders.

NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.

1. If any person orders his paper discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made, and collect the whole amount, whether it be taken from the office or not.

2. The courts have decided that refusing to take newspapers or periodicals from the post-office, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is prima facie evidence of fraud.

☞ The price of the PLOUGHMAN is 20 cents a year within the United States.

Editorial

WINTER CARE OF STOCK.

We have frequently referred to this subject, and more especially with the feeding and care of dairy cows in view. But every aspect of the management of cattle is interesting to the farmer at this season of the year, and it is useful to discuss it often, to look at it in its bearings, and to study results, for as we have often said, cattle husbandry lies at the foundation of all successful agriculture.

We do not propose to refer to the particular system of feeding stock, that is the quality, the number of times a day they shall be fed, etc. We have discussed the plan of feeding twice a day instead of oftener, in our remarks upon what we called the "Barre system" of feeding, a few weeks ago, and it is not necessary to dwell upon it here, any further than to say that Mr. Harris Lewis of Berkshire County, N. Y., endorsed that system so unitedly in his admirable lecture upon summer and winter feeding of dairy stock before the Mass. State Board of Agriculture at Barre, a report of which we gave at the time, and there are few men whose opinions are entitled to greater respect. He said he had realized feeding but twice a day for many years, and of course he believes it to be the true method of treatment. Nor do we propose to go into the proper mode of using grass, so intimately connected with the winter feeding of cattle, nor to the necessity of a more extended cultivation of roots for cattle food.

We take it for granted the reader of the *Ploughman* took our advice last spring, and put in a wide breadth of mangolds and swedes, and that he cut his grass while it was in grass, just as it was headed out, or in bloom, when it ought all to have been cut. Grass in blossom, as we have often said, contains all the elements necessary for the production of milk, and muscle, fat and bother, if it ever does or can contain, and if it does till the seed begins to form it loses nearly all its value, changes its nutritive elements from the stalk to the seed, and leaves the stalk a mass of little more than woody fibre. We take it for granted that the importance of cutting grass early was du y appreciated, and that it was cut and cured in a manner to preserve it in the form of *dried* grass, and not that of straw, which is the condition of so much that goes in under the name of hay.

But beyond this there is something to be considered. The dried grass ought to be cut as near to the condition of succulence as that it had before it came off the field, if that is possible. That is the form in which it will do the most good, and the form in which cattle in a state of nature most commonly relish their food. Now it is not easy for the farmer that can conveniently treat his grass or hay artificially, so as to bring it back to the condition of succulence it had while growing. We cannot all steam it or cook it with hot water. What else can be done at this season of the year, which is in the measure an equivalent for these processes? We contend that the judicious feeding of sound and healthy roots in the winter in connection with hay or dried grass, is practically reducing the hay to its normal degree of succulence, and that if the two, hay and roots, are fed together every day, it is getting about as near to the grass feeding as it is possible to get in this climate.

Of course it is understood that swedes are to be used up first and that mangolds are to follow. Here is what Mr. Lewis said in his lecture as to the way he took to restore back the hay to its original succulence: "I can do it cheapest and best with mangel wurzel. By feeding mangel wurzel to a cow each day, in connection with my dried grass, I turn January into June to every intent and purpose. The cow has her grass restored to its original quality and succulence, the very food that nature designed she should have the year round. There is no other way that I have tried, by which I can do this so cheaply, so effectually, so perfectly, as I can with mangel wurzel. I have never raised a crop that cost me over seven cents per bushel, and I have grown crops that cost me only five cents and four mills per bushel. I feed these in connection with the last cut hay. At that time the hay cut last has more woody fibre than that first cut, and the mangold has more water, and you see how they sandwich together. They come in just as naturally as whiskey runs down a toper's throat. There is the greatest amount of water in the mangold when I need the most in the hay I am feeding, and as I come down to the first cut hay, the dried grass, I have less water in the mangolds. Every man can do this as easy as he can turn his hand over, or just as easily as he can put the hay he cuts to-morrow on top of the hay he cuts to-day. He puts it in in exactly the reverse order in which he feeds it out, and in which he wants to feed his roots in connection with it." That is pretty sound doctrine, and it is the actual experience of a large dairyman, of close and intelligent observation and judgment of the most economical methods of feeding.

As to the care of cows and other stock, they ought to have a temperature in the barn of about sixty to sixty-five degrees. That is low enough, but it is much higher than is practically the case in winter, in many of our old rickety barns. A lower temperature will require a proportionately larger expenditure of food. But if the barn is very tight and close, care should be taken to secure pure air and ventilation and plenty of light. The greatest practicable flood of light is most conducive to health of animals as well as of men. Have large windows to let in the light and the sunshine, if possible, at this season of the year.

Most of our farmers are too careless about carding their cattle at this season, while they are confined to the barn. While at pasture cattle need it less. They are free to move about and to rub and lick themselves, but they have no such freedom when in the stanchions. They ought therefore to be carded daily. We regard this as a very important part of the winter care of cattle, and we hope no reader of the *Ploughman* will neglect it. A man that will take the trouble to card his cattle every day, will naturally treat them kindly and gently, and every cow will be glad to have him come and fondle over her. She will have no fear of his presence, but have full confidence, and that is worth a good deal to every owner of stock.

THE CREAM OF MILK.

Few persons are aware, probably, of the extent to which the percentage of cream is influenced by the conditions of the cow. It is a curious fact that any excitement to which the animal is subjected causes a very large loss of cream on the milk. At the Barre meeting of the Mass. State Board, Dr. Sturtevant of South Framingham, said "under the same feed, and under the same circumstances, the same cow gave, one day, nine and a half per cent. of cream and another day eighteen per cent. of cream." Thereupon, Mr. Lewis, an old experienced dairyman said: "I can tell a bigger story than that. I have taken a good deal of pains to test the value of my milk that I have worked into cheese. I have graduated glasses for the purpose, and I have found a cow whose uniform percentage of cream was eighteen per cent. reduced to six, in twelve hours,—not from any change of food, but from a little excitement. You gentlemen who make butter, be careful to adop. my advice and always treat your cow kindly and gently; never get her excited, because every ounce of excitement will take from her milk one per cent. of cream. I have known a cow abused by a furious, brutal milker, and the percentage of her cream went down one-half. It is astonishing what an effect excitement has on the percentage of cream in the milk that a cow produces. You will be astonished if you will make the test, and make it carefully. I have known a cow, excited from natural causes, to drop in her percentage of cream in her milk from fourteen to six per cent. in twelve hours. So I would again repeat, whoever abuses his cow knocks out of his milk a large percentage of the cream."

It will readily be seen how important it is to keep the cow quiet and free from fright and all excitement. The worry by dogs, the hurrying and hollowing of boys when driving the cows home from pasture, the kicking and pounding of an angry milker, or any similar cause of excitement will be sure to reduce the quality of the milk to the extent of several per cent. of cream. This fact is too well attested by many careful and experienced dairymen to admit of a doubt, and the first object of concern with the butter dairyman, especially, should be to see that his cows are treated with the utmost gentleness all the time. The boys who drive the cows home will make a note of this, and when the spring comes and cows go out, just mark what we say.

SCAB IN SHEEP.

Since writing upon this loathsome disease in reply to the inquiry of a correspondent of the *Ploughman* two weeks ago, we have received an opinion upon it from Mr. Henry Woods, steward and chief manager of the late Lord Walsingham, owner of one of the largest and choicest Southdown flocks in England. We had a short but pleasant acquaintance with Mr. Woods a few years ago, and we know of no one better posted in all matters relating to sheep. Had the Massachusetts Society held a show last fall as it was expected, Mr. Woods was intending to come over with a small but select lot of Southdowns, which would have added great interest to the Exhibition, as we should have seen some of the cream of one of the best flocks of that breed in Europe.

Mr. Woods recommends for twenty sheep suffering with the scab, soft soap one and a quarter pounds, shag tobacco, one pound, spirits of turpentine, one pint, spirits of tar, one-half pint, white arsenic three ounces. This to be safe and effectual must be boiled so as thoroughly to dissolve the arsenic, and that he regards as an important point. Better put the tobacco when boiled into a flannel bag, and squeeze it sufficiently to get out all the strength in order to get the full benefit of it. Then add water enough to make four quarts of the wash for each sheep. It is not a dip, but a wash, and to put it on, an old teapot or a spouted tin should be used.

The way to make it most effectual is to open the wool by making three marks on each side of the sheep, also one down the shoulder, one on each side of the neck, one down the breast and one down each thigh and into the marks pour the liquid. In this as in many other things, if it is worth doing at all it is worth doing well, and so don't be in a hurry about it. Do the work well. Rub the liquid well into the skin. After passing it along the grooves work it well in with the hand. Be in no hurry about it as if you wanted to get over it as quickly as possible. The liquid will work a cure. There may be some spots where the liquid has not penetrated. Examine the sheep every two or three days for three weeks, by which time the disease may be expected to be eradicated. If there are any little white spots rub on some of the following ointment: Mercury four ounces; Venice turpentine three ounces; spirits of turpentine one ounce. Let them be worked up and thoroughly mixed together, then add about one and one-quarter pounds of lard melted over a slow fire, stirring while melting. When taken off, continue to stir till cold so as to mix the mercury well with the other ingredients. Apply this in fine weather, for it will be safer and more effectual. It is a good plan to bleed the sheep to reduce the heat or quantity of the blood.

All this looks rather formidable, but if a cure is expected we know of nothing so effectual. Mr. Woods says the acari are not larger than the hole made by the point of a pin. They multiply with extraordinary rapidity.

LUTHER TUCKER.

The veteran editor of the *Cultivator* and *Country Gentleman* is no more. He died on Sunday, the 26th of Jan. Mr. Tucker was born at Brandon, Vt., on the 7th of May, 1802, and was consequently about seventy years old at the time of his death. He was early apprenticed to the printing business, and after various changes, such as are often incident to the life of a young man till he is finally settled into the business of life, he established the *Genessee Farmer*, Jan. 1, 1831, at Rochester, N. Y. At the end of the first year he had but six hundred subscribers. But he was one of those young men that have the elements of success in them and perserved against every obstacle, till by the year 1839 he had raised the list of 19,000.

In the meantime the celebrated judge Buel had established the *Cultivator* at Albany in 1833, and at his death, in 1839, Mr. Tucker purchased that journal of his heirs and removed to Albany, uniting the *Genesee Farmer* and the *Cultivator*, and there he gave to it the great work of his life, and became a successful journalist, a position which he maintained with distinguished ability till the time of his death. He was regarded by his brethren of the agricultural press as at the head of his profession, a leader in the craft, and a model for the rest of us to follow. He possessed great good judgment, while the practical and scientific character of the men he was enabled to call to his aid, gave his paper a wide circulation and secured for its proprietor and editor a wide reputation over the country.

His sterling integrity was, no doub: the foundation and basis of his success. Honesty of purpose, with energy and ability will command the respect and the admiration of men, and it is a satisfaction to study a life of such honorable usefulness. In the development of the agricultural resources of this country, few men are deserving of higher credit than Luther Tucker.

MASSACHUSETTS AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

The trustees of this Institution met at the office of its Secretary at the State House, on Thursday, the 30th of January. Present, President William S. Clark, of Amherst, John Cummings of Woburn, Dr. Nathan Durfee of Fall River, Charles L. Flint of Boston, William Knowlton of Upton, Daniel Needham of Groton, Charles C. Sewall of Medfield, Phineas Stedman of Chicopee, Joseph White of Williamstown, Henry L. Whiting of Tisbury, and Marshall P. Wilder of Boston. The annual Report was read. The question of applying to the Legislature for an appropriation was discussed and deferred to the next meeting.

Correspondence.

LETTER FROM MAINE.

MAINE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

In your notice of the annual meeting of the Board of Agriculture of this State held at Winthrop week before last, you express great surprise that Mr. Goodale, its efficient Secretary for so many years, was not re-elected. You purposely refrained from making any comments thereon, as you say you "are not fully informed" of the reasons which led to the change. The method by which it was accomplished is more reprehensible if possible than the change itself. When you understand this foul plot fully, well may you and every well meaning man be surprised, nay astonished as the people of this State were on its announcement. Did the community or any considerable part of it demand it? Was it even dreamed of by any, save two or three self interested ones? No. But on the contrary Mr. Goodale is universally regarded as possessing and practically combining more of the qualifications incident to, and necessarily pertaining to that office, than any other man in the State. Once before it was suggested that there might be a change by an interested party, but the mere suggestion was sufficient to call forth an unequivocal no. To accomplish it now different tactics must be adopted. Two or three stealthily lay the plot, very quietly engineer it, are early at the meeting, their men counted, refuse to wait till the members are mostly together, proceed to an election with eight members in a Board of *twenty-two* and the work is done. How true the old adage that a lie will travel a mile while truth is putting her boots on. A man that wants an office now a-days is up, dressed, and takes the citadel by storm, while *honest* men, believing others as honest as themselves are cheated out of their senses. By such manœuvreing and trickery the Board of Agriculture is deprived of a Secretary in every way competent, faithful, and laborious, with large experience and a reputation extending far beyond the limits of this State.

This State cannot afford to lose the services of such a man as Mr. Goodale, in its agricultural department at this time. His experience and practical ability, so closely allied with its interests, are now demanded more than ever, as the natural resources and water power of the State are being more rapidly developed and utilized. Various manufactories are springing up all over the State. State quarries of the finest qualities are being opened, railroads are being built in every direction, and various other smaller enterprises are progressing, all of which will have a direct tendency to create a larger *home* market for all the products of the farm, which will give a new impetus to our agricultural resources. Therefore we need our best men to manage our agricultural institutions. When we get a good, faithful man, that can work, and is *willing* to work, hold on to him. Let us try no doubtful experiments. But let us put our hands to the plough and each lend a helping hand.

But this matter has a broader scope of influence than our own State. Mr. Goodale's well won and extensive influence abroad, both throughout the States, Canadas, and the Provinces, is worth a good deal to us, and gives character and influence to us there, as we send our reciprocal greetings through him. Hence we become a power abroad, scattering as well as gathering, joining hands with the rest of the world, in the great science of Agriculture. So we think and so we feel down here in the Pine Tree State.

Hoping that you, and the readers of the *Ploughman* will now better understand our situation and see that it was not the deliberate purpose of our people to make the change, but the snap judgment of a clique,

I remain yours, FAIR PLAY.

Jan. 27, 1873.

The Dairy.

THE AMERICAN DAIRYMAN'S ASSOCIATION.

The eighth meeting of the American Dairyman's Association was held at Utica, beginning on the 14th of January. The columns of the *Ploughman* have been so occupied of late that it has not been practicable to present a full and detailed report at an earlier day. The session continued four days and the time was occupied by lectures and discussions. One of the most valuable of the papers was that of the President of the Association, Gov. Seymour, upon the

Use of the Microscope in Testing Milk.

We have space for only a part of this address as reported in the *Utica Herald*. He said:

We have had interesting addresses from men of science upon many things connected with this branch of business. They have given interest, value, and dignity to the proceedings of this Association. Our reports have been sought for from all parts of our own country and Canada, and many have been sent to Europe. You will bear in mind that most of these addresses have been based upon facts learned by the aid of the microscope. We have been told of things of great importance about matters under our own eyes which we did not see, because our eyes had not the power to show them to us. We have learned great truths from other men about our business, because they used a tool we did not keep. What they saw they told us about, and we learned as much as men can learn from descriptions. But why should we not see for ourselves? Words can only give hazy ideas. An address cannot meet all the questions coming up in our minds. Hearing once, is not like seeing many times. Listening does not stamp things upon our minds like looking. The mind of the scientific man does not move on the same level or run in the same grooves that ours do; and it is, therefore, hard to keep the thread of his discourse. We should not use our own senses, and know accurately, rather than use another man's senses, and learn from him inaccurately? What stands in the way of this? Is the cost of the instrument? It ranges from fifty cents to fifty dollars; from the price of a dozen cigars up to the average bet on a horse race at a county fair. The cheapest will not show much, but they will expose any want of cleanliness in a milk can, and will give a new view of many objects. It will teach men to look and reason, and in the end lead them to use better instruments, and to engage in more elaborate researches. The more costly microscopes need some skill and care in their use. A little time and practice will make this easy. All the reading and study connected with them can be carried out in a few winter evenings. There is some trouble at first with high powers, but the eye and the hand will soon get trained.

Under our system of making cheese in factories we look to their managers for all the skill they can gain. We also expect that they will give their patrons such facts as they need to do their part in making a good article for market. They come short of their duty if they fail in either of these two respects. This Association is to try to promote these objects. In listening to its debates I am struck with the fact that all agree upon certain points, but all complain year after year that admitted evils are not cured. For instance, all say there must be cleanliness in milking and in cans. All have a common interest in this. All mean to live up to its requirements, but the evil continues. Why is this? Is it not due to the fact that each man has his own idea of cleanliness, and each lives up to his own standard? If one of them is charged with uncleanliness, he feels deeply wounded, and bitter, angry strife is engendered. What cleanliness is, is a matter of opinion. Now apply the microscope to the can or to some minute deposit in its crevices. It shows to the eye that it has the germs of animal or vegetable growth, which will increase and multiply with wonderful rapidity through a great mass of milk with which it comes in contact. That puts an end to the trouble. The man finds out he is wrong in a way that does not touch his pride. The cheese maker does not find it necessary to quarrel with him. On the contrary, he can excuse the fault, if it is not kept up. If it is after making it clear to his eyes, then cut off all dealing with him.

Much has been said in our debates about aerating milk, but little is done to carry out the practice. Is it not thus due to the fact that the need of this aeration is not made clear to the mind of farmers? But show them the tendency of milk to catch from other substances, or to engender in itself fungus plants and infusoria; let them see through a microscope how swiftly they spread, and what corruption they can work through a large vat from a small quantity of infected milk, then show to their eyes that pure air passing through the milk will, in a good degree, kill these poisonous growths, and they get a clear, distinct idea of the value of aeration. Their own senses show them that air mixed with the milk does not merely cool it, but that it is death to the germs of many corruptions. For this reason many foul things cannot live in running water, which fill up stagnant pools with unhealthy animal and vegetable lives. After that, when he forces air through his milk he feels that he is killing reptiles. Men can never be converted from evil ways until they get clear ideas of wrong doing.

It is hard to carry out a shadowy, indefinite idea; it is hard to resist one that is clear, strong, and clean cut. A good microscope in each cheese factory, in the hand of one who could use it, and who would collect objects for the patrons to look at, would, in an easy, cheap way, work out most of the reforms at which we aim on the part of our farmers. We should see with the instrument how our cows take into their systems swarms of animal and vegetable corruptions when they drink from stagnant pools. We should see the germs of poisonous life floating in the air from decaying animal and vegetable matter. We should know what killed not only our stock but our families. The word uncleanness would mean something to us, and we should bear it in mind.

At our last meeting, Mr. Arnold, in a very able and interesting address, proved by the aid of this instrument what made poisonous cheese. He had drawings of objects so that all was made clear to our sight, and thus made clear to our minds. Our vision stamped the facts upon our minds. If he had not used his glass he would not have found out those facts. If he keeps on with its use he will find out many other valuable facts, and he will teach them to others. Now any other man can do the same thing, and any cheesemaker ought to follow his example. If there were a thousand microscopes at work in our manufactories we should not be left groping in the dark about the causes of all the troubles in cheese making. I do not say they would be seen at once, but a thousand visions intensified by art, a thousand minds made clear and penetrating by thought and investigation, would in a little time give us a skill which would command the markets of the world.

I said the microscope should be a farm tool. As cheese making is a branch of farming it will not be out of place to say something of the use of this instrument to agriculture generally. It is strange that while it is used in almost every other industry, it is midst of those objects, and who labor upon those substances upon which it throws the most light. It throws the structure of the plants he raises, the character of their enemies, the cause of mildew and blight, the habits of insects which destroy the fruits of his soil. There is not a thing about a farm which a man will not understand better if he looks at it with a vision magnified a hundred fold. It is a liberal education which any one will get who will carry a good magnifying glass in his vest pocket, which he will use on any object which comes in his way. It will give him a new view of the world. His farm will become a museum of wonders. Everything we understand gives us pleasure. No one has studied out with a glass the peculiar structure of any tree that he did not feel a sense of pleasure ever after looking at it. It needs more sense to live on a farm than to live in a town. Farmers are a large part of the time alone by themselves. When a man is alone with himself he should try to be with an intelligent person of good morals and a cheerful disposition. And he will have all these if he gets that acquaintance with all the animal, vegetable, and mineral world around him, which he can gain by the use of this vision when it is so strengthened by art that he can look into many of the secrets of nature. In most cases it is the empty head which leads a man to leave country for city life.

It is one of the greatest mistakes of our farmers that, as a rule, they suffer the buyer to know more about the quality and value of farm products than is known by those whose labor makes them. The buyer has tests which the farmer does not have. I notice that when the wool buyer comes round, he takes out his glass and sees at a glance the structure of the article in hand, and knows more about it than he who has toiled a year in its production. The same thing is true of seeds. The magnifier is applied to pork to see if it is infested with trichina. I think it is true, as a rule, that the buyers of farm products know more about them than the producers. The man who knows the most always gets the best of a bargain. It is certain that knowledge is power in making a trade. It can be safely put down as a rule that a man who, for natural or artificial reasons, can see a hundred times as much as his neighbors, will know the marts.

We shall probably present some abstract of the other papers and the discussions at an early day. As to the general result of the convention the *Herald* sums up as follows:

Lessons of the Convention.

1. Tainted milk was assigned its proper position, with tainted meat, stale eggs, and diseased animals, in both the essays and debates. It was claimed that healthful or long-keeping cheese can be made of tainted milk, though a salable cheese may be produced and put upon the market, for soon rot on the holder's hands, to the detriment of the character of American cheese, and possibly to disease, if not destroy, the unfortunate consumer. The responsibility for tainted milk was placed where it belongs, on the producer, and the necessity for cooling and airing milk as soon as drawn from the cow was demonstrated. Two or three contrivances for airing and cooling were exhibited.

2. The importance of the microscope on the farm was clearly stated by ex-Gov. Seymour, and further urged and illustrated by T. D. Curtis. Not only is strict cleanliness demanded, but it is plain that some definite standard should be fixed upon. This standard, Gov. Seymour believes, can be determined in no other way so satisfactorily as by the use of the microscope, which should become a familiar tool on every farm and in every household, opening our vision to the teeming, and—to the naked eye—invisible world around us, in which are often going on important changes involving life and death.

3. The importance of encouraging home consumption and building up home markets was forcibly touched upon by L. B. Arnold. He showed that it was impossible to foster both a home and a foreign market, as our best cheese must go to one, to the detriment of the other; and S. A. Farrington pointed out the absurdity of permitting the 80,000,000 or 70,000,000 pounds of cheese which we expect to control the price of the 250,000,000 pounds which we manufacture. Mr. Arnold also pointed out the danger of damaging competition in the English market which we are likely to experience at no very distant day in the future, from our Canadian neighbors.

4. The experience of Gardner B. Weeks, Secretary of the Association, in the running of a creamery, was not of that flattering kind calculated to encourage venturesome novices to embark in the undertaking. It showed that thorough knowledge, skill, and close management are necessary to put a satisfactory balance on the right side of the account. The rapidity with which creamery butter loses its fine flavor was pointed out. Probably careful observation would show that private dairy butter deteriorates just as rapidly. We need more light on this butter question, and our farmers most assuredly need to provide themselves with better facilities for keeping butter and preventing it from depreciating on their hands.

5. The question of skimming the cream off from the night's milk, after it has stood twelve hours, was cleverly handled by Mr. Blanding. He backed up his argument by producing a fine specimen of cheese made from milk so skimmed. There was no disputing his facts. But it must have been apparent to every one that there is a difference in the richness of milk, and that some will bear the skimming indicated and still be richer than some unskimmed milk. Mr. Blanding lives in what is properly a butter region, and his patrons, no doubt, are the owners of good butter stock, which fact would make his case quite different from that of one situated in a neighborhood where nothing but cheese has ever been made, and the cows have been selected for the number of pounds of milk they will yield, without reference to quality. If milk is rich enough, it will bear a little skimming, but only that which is more than ordinarily rich will bear factories may skim one hundred per cent. and no one runs away with the idea that the cheese will be just as rich in butter as if no cream were taken from the milk.

6. Can the cream, when once separated from the milk, be again reunited and retained in the cheese made from the milk? This question was well answered by A. A. Goodenough, who ably represented the St. Lawrence County Dairymen's Association. By properly cooling the milk, so that the cream is found thin and limpid in the morning, and stirring it in at a temperature of 70 deg., he is able, by careful handling of the curd, to retain very nearly all the cream. His average for the season—9.43 pounds of milk for a pound of cheese—shows this. Where cream becomes stiff and hard, it is difficult, if not impossible, to incorporate it with the milk. When heated it will stand in oily drops on the whey. The management that wastes cream when it rises into the milk will waste the cream that has never been separated from the milk. It will waste about the same percentage whether the milk is poor or rich; but, of course, the poorer the milk, the less will be the loss. We have not yet learned how to work up milk without waste. Much might be saved, however, by the delivery of milk in proper condition, by carefully stirring the milk when the rennet is added, by cutting at precisely the right time, by stirring the curd less and so as not to break and bruise it, by getting the proper action of heat, and by dipping and salting the curd at the right stage of acidity.

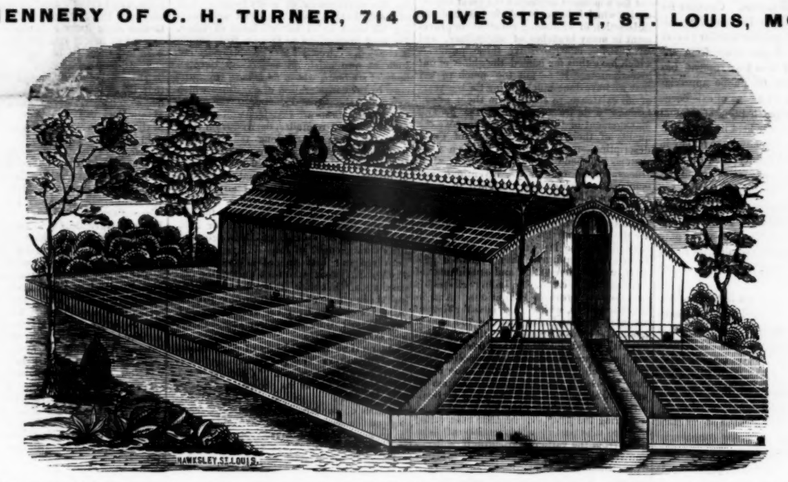
7. Deep or shallow setting of milk for butter-making purposes was touched upon by O. S. Bliss, Secretary of the Vermont Dairymen's Association, who last year rather advocated deep setting, and this year inclines to shallow. We lay this down as an axiom: Cream will rise through a short distance sooner than it will through a long one; but it will rise through any distance, if the milk is kept sweet long enough and at the right temperature. The question of not setting milk at all for the cream to rise, but churning the whole milk, was not favored. This churning the whole milk, was not favored. This churning the whole milk, was not favored. This would require a little more mechanical power for churning, but we suspect the next movement will be in this direction.

8. The question of breeding dairy stock was briefly touched upon by Mr. Curtis. The importance of breeding for specific purposes seems self evident. That there is a difference in both the quantity and quality of the butter made from different cows no one will attempt to dispute. The beautiful yellow butter made by Jason Ayres, of Poland, Herkimer County, and exhibited by Jacob Ellison, could be made from but few cows. If we would have in our animals the qualities desired, we must breed for them. The only feasible way now opened to the farmer to get them, is to breed from none but pure blood males belonging to families possessing the requisite qualities in the greatest degree. If any but pure blood males are used, we are liable to develop the objectionable qualities as the desirable ones. These are considerations almost universally neglected, but they cannot be overlooked much longer.

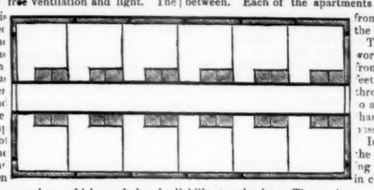
9. The convention was considerably waked up by David W. Lewis of New York, who introduced a resolution in favor of memorializing the Legislature to repeal the law requiring coopers to mark the weight on firkins and tubs made by them. There was quite a division of opinion as to the propriety of the law, which is designed to protect dealers by having the packages marked by a disinterested party, and the motion was laid on the table. It is claimed that in many cases the packages are marked too heavy, which doubtless comes from using timber not properly seasoned. In others, it is declared that a half firkin will not soak up a pound of water, nor a firkin two pounds, which is the reduction made by dealers, and the dairyman has to make up the deficiency in butter, which is rather expensive. Mr. Lewis testified that there is a good deal of discrepancy between the mark on the package, adding the soakage, and the actual weight when the butter reaches the city. Hence, when dealers sell to retailers, the latter strip off the package and weigh it. If the package is too light, they say nothing about it, if too heavy they deduct from the number of pounds of butter. But as buyers in the country cannot strip off the packages, and must depend on somebody's mark, we cannot see but that of the disinterested cooper is as good as anybody's. It is also a sort of guarantee to the dairyman who sends forward his butter on commission. He does not have to depend entirely on the honesty of the dealer. This mode of marking and deducting soakage may not be accurate, but it closely approximates accuracy, and we do not see how the matter can be bettered. If the farmer properly soaks the firkin in brine, he can hardly fail to make the tub heavy enough. If he does not so soak his package, he ought to lose by shrinkage, and he certainly will in the deterioration of the quality of his butter, where it comes in contact with the wood, if nowhere else. The wood if not filled with brine before [illegible] will waste the cream, by the drawing off of the moisture, will draw the brine out of the butter, as the water evaporates, and leave the butter fresh, to turn rancid and sickening to the taste.

THE BEST BEE HIVE.—At the Bee Keepers' Convention, held at Kalamazoo, during the Michigan State Fair, the above question was submitted to a committee, who reported that the best beehive was one with a broad chamber not exceeding twelve inches, or less than ten inches in depth, and to be of such a form that it contains not less than 2,000, and not to exceed 2,500 cubic inches of space; and that the surplus honey space above be of the same size, in order to use the same sized frames, or small honey boxes with frames. That the entrance should be small in winter, allowing not more than two bees to pass each other at a time, and the ventilation upward to be regulated at pleasure, as no strong current of air should pass up through the hive, that being highly injurious to the bees. There is no question that this is the best hive; but how much of this is patented is an unsettled question.—*Eds.*

HENNERY OF C. H. TURNER, 714 OLIVE STREET, ST. LOUIS, MO.



The Hennery here presented is built after the latest and most approved designs, and seems to embody in its construction every suggestion that experience can make. The material used is a first rate article of tongue and grooved boards, except a space of six feet wide over the apartments, extending the entire length of the building, which is glass, every other one of which is on hinges, so as to admit of free ventilation and light. The building is thirty-two feet in length, and eighteen wide, and is divided into twelve apartments, six on each side of the house, with a passageway three feet wide running between. Each of the apartments allotted to fowls, is five by six feet, and contains a movable trestle, which serves for a roost; also, two nests set on platforms raised about six inches above the ground, so arranged as to be taken out through the hallway, which leads from each apartment to the yard belonging to it.



The yards are of tight boards, three feet high, with wire work covering the entire top, which prevents the chickens from flying out. Each yard contains about sixteen square feet, and has a small door which leads to the outside, through which the fowls pass when it is thought desirable to allow them a wider range. At no time, however, is more than one yard permitted outside, so in this way, there is no possibility of any of the different varieties coming together.

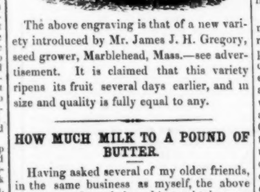
In entering the house at the doorway which leads into the passage, we find each apartment numbered, commencing with number one and extending to twelve. The woman in charge has boxes corresponding in numbers, and as she gathers the eggs from each apartment, places them in the proper box, which precludes the liability to mistakes. The poultry are kept healthy and vigorous.—*Illustrated Journal of Agr.*

Stock Department.

KEEP THE CATTLE GROWING.

The most successful breeders of horses, cattle, sheep or swine, know from experience that although they may possess the best fitted for producing superior stock, a continual growth of young animals is not kept up. In order to begin in time at this indispensable preparation for success, the brood mares, cows, ewes and sows are most carefully and suitably fed while with young, and as soon as the young animals make their appearance, they are taken the greatest care of, the dams being suitably fed while suckling, and when the young ones are weaned, they are not supposed to want for food or drink a single hour. By this means a continuous or rapid growth is kept up, and the animals attain a large size and heavy weight at an early age. When breeding animals are not properly fed and comfortably sheltered in winter, the bad effect of such treatment is not confined to their own want of condition—it is shared by their progeny, and can never be remedied. When young stock are not fed well and comfortably sheltered in winter, their growth becomes stunted, and no subsequent amount of good treatment can repair the damage. Young animals may suffer for want of proper provender in summer and autumn, as well as in winter, and when this happens it stops continuous growth and prevents ultimate success in the objects of the breeders.—*Working Farmer.*

CANADA VICTOR TOMATO.



The above engraving is that of a new variety introduced by Mr. James J. H. Gregory, seed grower, Marblehead, Mass.—see advertisement. It is claimed that this variety ripens its fruit several days earlier, and in size and quality is fully equal to any.

HOW MUCH MILK TO A POUND OF BUTTER.

Having asked several of my older friends, in the same business as myself, the above question, and not being able to obtain very satisfactory answers, I found myself compelled to solve it alone. The course of reasoning pursued was, that a fair answer could only be obtained from a comparison of the doings of one cow or even one dairy, though a large one. I obtained a report of seven butter factories in New York, representing 108,873 pounds of butter per annum from over 800 cows; from these, I found that a careful average showed that one pound of butter required *twenty-three and one-half pounds of milk*; it was also evident that either there was a difference in the quality of the milk furnished to the different factories, or else in the perfection of the plan pursued by each one in separating the butter, for these averages varied from twenty pounds of milk at the Davis Factory, Herkimer Co., to twenty-five at the Berry Factory, at Malone. Although not properly in place, I may state that the average price of the 108,873 pounds of butter was thirty and one-quarter cents per pound.

The Davis factory is essentially a cheese fact

I believe he obtains sixty cents a pound for this butter.

O. M. Tinkham, Esq., also of Pomfret, read a paper on the

"Jersey Cattle and their Relations to the Dairy Interests of Vermont."

This must be the same paper read by him at the meeting of the State Board of Agriculture at Woodstock, reported in the *Ploughman*, and need not be repeated here. Suffice it to say that it abounded plentifully in figures, showing the value of the breed of cows for butter making. He gave some most remarkable results from individual dairies, averaging from two hundred to three hundred pounds each cow per year.

A favorable impression seemed to be made in favor of the Jerseys by the statements brought out at this meeting.

EVENING SESSION.

J. P. Ellsworth, Esq., of Barre, Mass., being called upon, came forward and gave an account of his mode of making butter and putting up for market. As Mr. Ellsworth is a successful farmer and his statements were plain and straightforward, they were listened to with pleasure by those present, and gave rise to an animated discussion upon different points connected therewith. It was at first the impression of men well versed in butter making, and known from experience whereof they affirm, will not be lost upon the dairymen of our State, but will stimulate them to renewed exertions in their occupation, in order to secure the best result.

J. B. Broughton, Esq., of Malone, N. Y., gave some interesting facts in connection with the establishing of a Butter Factory in his town. Small dairies are kept in that section, and previously farmers had not, for some reason, been able to obtain as much for their butter in Frankline as in the surrounding counties. They now get from three to eight cents above the prices obtained from butter made at home on the farm, and equal to the highest quotations of Orange County pail.

The Malone farmers are pleased, as they may well be, at the results of this factory system, and of course have no desire to return to the old way.

THURSDAY MORNING.

There were several arrivals this morning from abroad, among them Hons. X. A. Willard of Utica, Harris Lewis of Frankfort, Herkimer Co., and Prof Colton of the New York Times. Gardner B. Weeks also has arrived previously.

Mr. Ellsworth after some preliminary business gave an account of his manner of feeding stock—otherwise the "Barre System." This is not new to the readers of the *Ploughman*, but was to a great extent to the farmers in this part of Vermont. It created considerable interest and discussion, showing that our farmers are not averse to learn from others, if in so doing a "better way" from that by them practiced can be produced.

Mr. Lewis thought that Mr. Ellsworth's theory was correct; twice a day is sufficient for feeding cows, as we can feed them often enough as almost to defeat digestion, but he would give only good fodder, use the very poor for bedding and the manure heap. Contained truth in this. He would not dwell upon by all. The discussion was well sustained and of interest, being engaged in by Sec. Gold, Prof. Colton, Messrs. Douglas of Whiting, Hubbard of Springfield, and Dr. Haskins of the *Vermont Farmer, etc.*

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Hall was densely filled to listen to the address of the Hon. X. A. Willard on Dairying, Milk and its Products. This was a very lengthy, able and scientific paper, abounding in facts and important details, from which any farmer present might be able to obtain information of special interest to himself. And we have reason to think that the address was thus in part appropriated, as I heard of one farmer who said that the remarks of the learned professor, in relation to the bad effects resulting to milk, from allowing cows to pass through sloughs on their way to and from pasture, had convinced him of its truth, and the remedy of this in his case would be worth $100 to him alone.

The practice of allowing cows to drink impure water and dwell upon at considerable length and with convincing effect.

The curing of cheese and the keeping of butter made from *pure* milk was considered of more importance than the practice of salting milk, though *both* would be necessary to insure a superior article. The marketing of cheese in hot weather was deprecated, as often in the uncured state, a loss was sustained. To avoid this proper curing rooms should be constructed, where the temperature can be kept as near as scenty degrees as possible. The paper was then read, and from others, concluded the exercises of the afternoon.

EVENING.

A paper was read from *T. D. Curtis, Esq.*, of the Utica *Herald*, on

"Hints for the Times."

I was not present to hear this, but understand that it was of much interest, and listened to with satisfaction by those present. This was followed by a discussion concerning "Boards of Trade." I find as I did not take notes all of the time, I have missed two important papers presented at this stage of the meeting, and can now only briefly allude to them. The first was by *T. S. Gold*, Secretary of the Connecticut Board of Agriculture. This was upon the subject of "Milk," and was a plain practical paper easily understood by all and full of valuable hints and ideas.

The second paper was by *Gardner B. Blake, Esq.*, of Syracuse, N. Y., and treated more particularly upon the results of

"Experience in a Cheese Factory,"

---

of current grades of skimmed cheese, as compared with that made from new or full milk, was pretty fully tested. Mr. Weeks is of the opinion that the night's milk may be skimmed after standing twelve hours, and when united with the morning's milk, it makes a good quality of cheese, and that the butter realized from the cream with the cheese, will produce more money than cheese from new milk alone. Upon this question a variety of opinion existed.

FRIDAY MORNIG.

Dr. Sturtevant of South Framingham, Mass., being present, read a paper on the

"Merits of the Ayrshires for the Dairy."

The substance of this paper has appeared from time to time in the *Ploughman*. It presented good arguments in favor of the Ayrshires, and brought the subject up to the report of the Jerseys presented the day previous. Evidence was also produced from this county—Franklin—to show that we have good Ayrshires here.

The Shorthorns were also favorably noticed by *Mr. Winslow*, of the firm of A. M. Winslow & Sons, of Putney, Vt., who have an excellent herd of butter making purses. But I would endorse the remark made by Mr. Lewis, that all breeds are necessary, and no one breed adapted to all localities and conditions.

AFTERNOON.

Mr. Lewis spoke for a short time on

"Adaptation."

This address was illustrated with now and then a nicely fitting anecdote, which created considerable mirth and good feeling in all present. The time was well taken up, and yet at the close of the meeting there were papers and material sufficient to have lasted for an indefinite time longer. Most compimentary remarks were made by gentlemen from abroad, concerning the interest and enthusiasm manifested here. some exhibiting surprise at what they had seen and heard in this part of Vermont.

The meeting passed off pleasantly, and we trust profitably, and the officers of the Association have reason to be gratified at the results.

According to previous notice, samples of butter were sent in for exhibition, and also for competition, the prizes being a large sized Blanchard Churn, generously furnished for the purpose by the manufacturers. There were I believe some fifteen packages of butter on exhibition, all but two packages, one previously mentioned as belonging to Mr. Whipple, of Pomfret, the other from the State of New York, being from this—Franklin County.

The Committee were selected from gentlemen from abroad, and after a thorough and impartial examination, the prize was awarded to W. H. McAllister, Esq., of Enosburgh, Franklin County, Vt.

The prize tub was "carried off" by Col. Ellsworth, of Massachusetts, one of the Committee. The butter exhibited was of good character, as attested by the Committee.

CONGRESS.

But three weeks of the session now remains in which the legislation for the country is to be done. The appropriation bills have not yet been enacted, and in the discussion of those that have come up much time has been expended in amendments. It is considered highly desirable that the bill for the distribution of the Geneva award shall be passed this session, and the bill repealing the bankrupt law passed by the House is another of the important matters which will probably call for deliberation in the Senate. It has already come up but been postponed. A plan for the resumption of specie payments is now before a committee and will soon be reported to the Senate. It is hardly probable that such a bill will go through both Houses the present session.

A bill reported by the committee on pensions has passed the House, directing the restoration to the pension rolls of the names of such pensioners of the war of 1812 as were struck from the rolls on account of having aided and encouraged the rebellion.

The two investigating committees on the Credit Mobilier affairs have had almost daily sessions, and have been sweeping in many miscellaneous matters bearing upon the points at issue. Mr. Ames, the hero of the operations left for home the middle of last week to attend to important private business, and to refresh his memory still more by his private memorandum books. The matters in which the members of Congress implicated are most concerned were suspended until his return, when Mr. Colfax and others announce that they will make further statements tending to prove their innocence of the damaging charges. The present assets of the Credit Mobilier have been stated in the testimony as consisting of a block of two million dollars against the Union Pacific Railroad Company, about $150,000 in western lands, and fifteen hundred or two thousand shares of the railroad company. To judge from the intimations thrown out, if the whole truth were known it would involve a still larger number of members of Congress.

Mr. J. B. Stewart, a lawyer at Washington, and a prominent lobbyist, refused to answer certain questions of the committee as to what he had done with a large amount of money and bonds placed in his hands by the railroad operators, stated that none of it was used to corrupt members of Congress, but refused further to state what he had done with it, as being a privileged matter between himself and his clients. On being brought before the House for contempt and still refusing to answer, he was committed by order of the House.

The Ploughman.

BOSTON, SATURDAY, FEB. 8, 1873.

☞ Every member of the New England Agricultural Society will receive a copy of this week's *Ploughman* containing the official report of the annual meeting held in Boston, Tuesday, Feb. 4th, 1873.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY, was held in the Meionaon, in this city, on Tuesday last. We give a phonographic report of the meeting by Yerrinton, in another part of the *Ploughman*. The meeting was very fully attended, a large number of members being present from all the New England States. We had feared that on account of the exaggerated reports of small pox in Boston, the meeting would fail in drawing together the large number who usually have attended its deliberations. But in this we were mistaken. The large hall was nearly filled, and the enthusiasm far above that of any previous annual meeting of the Society. Dr. Loring's address will be read with great interest. It is a most valuable paper, and shows the great advance which is being made in our Agriculture and our Agricultural Education.

The Treasurer's Report speaks well for the general management of the Society. No better endorsement is needed. Consider for a moment that the New England Agricultural Society started without a dollar; never received one penny of patronage from the State or the United States Government, has depended entirely upon the public appreciation of its merits for its means of existence; and then that after the holding of nine of the best Exhibitions ever held in this country, and paying out annually more money in premiums than all the county societies combined, it has, to-day, nearly six thousand dollars of money in the Treasury. How this has happened is easily explained. Dr. Loring, the President, Col. Needham, the Secretary, and Col. Geo. W. Riddle, the Treasurer, have given their best energies and abilities to the planning and executing the work of the Society.

One of the most important features of the annual meeting was the resolution introduced by Col. Daniel Needham. This resolution was evidently considered neither out of place nor out of time by the large number of intelligent gentlemen who attentively listened to its reading. And when Col. Needham said he hoped that the vote would be taken by rising and that every gentleman present would vote, the large audience commenced rising, while President Loring was putting the question, and before the question was fully put to the meeting every man was on his feet. It was a unanimous vote, and the announcement of that fact was greeted with great enthusiasm.

It is evident that the farmers of New England are tired of the miserable, slipshod manner in which the Agricultural Department is being managed by the present Commissioner. The demand is for more energy—more ability; more comprehensive appreciation of the great wants of our agricultural population. Times have changed. The world moves. And we cannot have our great interests burdened by the carrying of a Commissioner, who is not thoroughly informed with regard to the wants of his Department, and the necessities of the people for whose benefit it was established. The time is fully ripe for a first class man at the head of the Agricultural Department,—and for Congress to enlarge the authority of the Department, and make its head a cabinet officer of the government. This much is due to the interests of agriculture; to the interests of the Agricultural Colleges of the country; to the interests of the people who earn their bread by the sweat of their brows, upon which all the other industries of the country depend.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

The annual business meeting of the State Board of Agriculture was held at the office of the Secretary at the State House, commencing on Monday last. The board holds a public meeting in the month of December in various parts of the State, and an annual meeting in Boston for the transaction of business, and not for public discussions. The proceedings appear in the Report of the Secretary.

Capt. John B. Moore of Concord, William Knowlton, Esq. of Upton and Hon. Albert Fearing of Hingham have been re-elected members of the Board by their respective Societies. Prof. Agassiz will be reappointed by the Governor.

VERMONT DAIRYMEN.

The Vermont Dairymen's Association met at St. Albans week before last and had a right good time, an earnest and lively meeting. Our friend, Mr. Ellsworth of Barre, Mass., was there, Hon. Harris Lewis of Herkimer Co., N. Y., and T. S. Gold of Connecticut, and many others. Mr. O. S. Bliss, the Secretary of the Association, evidently understands how to get up a good live meeting and to get the people out. If they would contrive to initiate a little more honest and satisfactory management of the railroads of Vermont, they would get a still larger attendence of outsiders. We present a report of the interesting and instructive proceedings.

CHEESE IN THE ARMY.

Ex-Gov. Seymour of New York, President of the American Dairymen's Association, has applied to Congress to make cheese an army ration. He is right and we see no reason why cheese should not be largely consumed in the army. It is nutritious, easily transported, palatable and healthful.

DEATH OF PROF. MAURY.—Lieut. M. F. Maury, formerly of the United States Navy, died in Virginia, last Saturday, aged sixty-seven. He was eminent for his scientific attainments, and was the projector of a long series of investigations relative to ocean storms, winds and currents, which resulted in many improvements in navigation. His sea charts have been of very great use to navigators, and many of his ideas in reference to the law of storms have proved of great practical value. The present system of predicting the weather from extended observations made simultaneously over the whole country was the progressive development of the weather theory of Prof. Maury. He joined the rebel navy in the war, and has since been professor of Physics in the Virginia Military Institute.

THE EASTERN RAILROAD.—The report of the directors of the Eastern Railroad presented at the meeting of the stockholders on Monday, states that the damages caused by the accident at Revere in August, 1871, have been substantially settled. The total cost of the accident has been $434,744,88. The road has only declared one dividend of three per cent. since the accident. The receipts of the company for the past year were $2,827,641,86; the expenditures were $2,004,746,28, and interest and rent of the P. S. & P. road amounted to $504,583,93, leaving a balance of $318,301,60. The damages of the accident do not come out of the statement of expenses, and the directors think that the amount paid should not be charged to the expenses of the past year, but that it should, in part at least, be funded and paid off gradually.

☞ The celebrated Disston's saws, also a full line of cutlery and hardware at lowest prices, may be found at H. O. Stratton's, 33 Doane St., Boston.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW ENGLAND AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The tenth annual meeting of the New England Agricultural Society was held on Tuesday of this week, at the Meionaon, and was very fully attended by the members of the Society and others interested in the general objects which the Society was organized to promote, and in which its labors have been so efficient and useful.

The meeting was called to order at eleven o'clock, by DR. GEORGE B. LORING, who delivered the following address:

PRESIDENT LORING'S ADDRESS.

Gentlemen: The New England Agricultural Society, of which this is the tenth annual meeting, has reason to rejoice in the success which has attended its labors thus far, and in the steady advance of that industry which it represents, from one degree of systematic development to another, as time goes on. The intimate relations which were established by this society at its very foundation, with the material interests of agriculture in all their variety, and with all the intellectual endeavors to improve its condition throughout the country, have given it a large opportunity to exert a wide and useful influence. While it has not for a moment neglected the great opportunity which it has enjoyed, it has had the satisfaction of witnessing constant improvement in many branches of agriculture, and an untiring effort to solve those problems which have thus far baffled the ablest of our investigators. It is not too much to say that we have done much during the ten years of our existence, to establish in the minds of farmers a desire to excel in the general management of their farms—to improve the quality of their domestic animals of every description—to discriminate between good systems and bad ones—to estimate at their true value all discoveries, inventions, and combinations which are designed to make farming easy—and to exercise a fair and liberal spirit towards all those who are honestly endeavoring to pursue their investigations, for the benefit of the community in which they live. The last annual exhibition at Lowell was peculiarly rich in valuable animals, useful inventions, and specimens of well cultivated crops. In many classes it surpassed all previous exhibitions. And in the discussions, which have thus far formed an interesting and useful part of our annual labor, there was displayed on that occasion a spirit of candor, fairness, and freedom from prejudice and devotion to preconceived notions, which indicated a determination to secure if possible the best knowledge upon all its reading. And when Col. Needham said he hoped that the vote would be taken by rising and that every gentleman present would vote, the large audience commenced rising, while President Loring was putting the question, and before the question was fully put to the meeting every man was on his feet. It was a unanimous vote, and the announcement of that fact was greeted with great enthusiasm.

During the past year we have been called upon to take part in a convention of delegates from the various agricultural colleges and societies of our country, called together at Washington by the Commissioner of Agriculture. After an unexpected and somewhat interesting discussion upon the nature and standing of our association, our delegates were admitted to seats in the assembly, and I had the honor to preside over its deliberations. The representation of all the States was large, and from the practical farmers gathered there from every section, and representing all the diversity of American agriculture, as well as from the active and energetic educators, who had come up from the colleges, there was a universal expression of a desire to place the business of farming here on a well organized, scientific foundation. Of the vast importance of the industry, of the great value to every State in our Union of a well educated rural population, of the necessity of introducing the best science and the best systems into agriculture conducted by a free and responsible people—there was a warm and earnest conviction throughout that assembly. The debates were elaborate and exhaustive, conducted as they were by many of the most intelligent of our practical farmers, and by some of the most accomplished of our scientific professors and teachers. The proceedings of the convention were incorporated in the published documents published by Congress at its last session, and I cannot doubt that they furnished valuable aid in the passage of that important bill through the Senate of the United States, which bestows additional land grants upon the agricultural colleges of the country, and which, if the people are under the deepest and most grateful obligations to Hon. Justin S. Morrill of Vermont, its author and eloquent defender. The convention was useful and encouraging, and should be repeated; and I can only regret that all the efforts of a committee appointed to call together a similar body in Washington, during the present month, have utterly failed, on account of the refusal of the Commissioner of Agriculture either to unite with the committee in the call for the convention, or to allow the convention to assemble within the walls of the Agricultural Department.

But should this convention not assemble again, it has at least put upon record a warm and earnest appeal for the introduction of the best scientific knowledge into the practical affairs of life. Realizing the fact that agriculture, of all pursuits in this country, requires the aid of those laws which can be established by careful investigation and well-regulated experiments, it devoted itself to the establishment of an appropriate system of American education, whose influences would be felt not in agriculture alone, but in all those occupations which make up the aggregate business of society. Of the necessity for such a system, and its simpleness and importance, there can be no doubt. The value of common school education, no man at this day calls in question. Our classical universities and colleges are counted among our richest national possessions, fruitful as they have been in cultivated men who have adorned our professions, and promotive of that general culture out of which alone great scholars spring. But the colleges which are to exert the largest influence upon the mental culture and the development and prosperity of our country, are those which send forth into every practical walk in life well educated and accomplished laborers, as well as teachers who can familiarize the popular mind with the most useful deductions of science. We may call this agricultural education if we will, but it means much more. The doubts and difficulties which surround the business of agriculture make such an especial appeal to the active mental labor of our day, that first and foremost in all practical education, stands education in this direction. We have learned that the introduction of science into agriculture, in other countries, has been attended with great advantages. The benefit derived by the English farmer, from the scientific investigations of Voelcker into the elements of fertilization, is invaluable, and would, if properly used, aid us much in this country, in our groping through the expensive intricacies of commercial fertilizers. Knowledge of this description popularly diffused would, I doubt not, secure an annual saving to the farmers of New England, of many thousands of dollars. The experimental farms and stations in Germany, forming a part of the system of agricultural education of that country, have accumulated a mass of observations, facts, and conclusions, which is of great service to the farmers of that country, has been carefully examined by the French government, and has attracted the attention of some of the best scientific men of our own country. Even here, in our own vague and ill-defined system, our implements of tillage and harvesting, our high-bred animals, our choicest varieties of grain, our land drainage and rotation of crops, such economy of fertilizers as we have, the best and best plans and practices of our agriculture, are the result of a long series of experiments, which might have been brought to more rapid perfection, if guided by more scientific cultivation. The value of such cultivation the agriculturists of older countries have already discovered; and the information which they would last resign is that derived from their scientific explorations into the quality of soils, and fertilizing materials, and into the laws of reproduction; from their experimental stations, and from their colleges devoted to teaching practical science. Valuable as these institutions are to them—they are vastly more valuable to us. The knowledge which they impart must be especially important to a people who cannot afford to waste or misapply their labor, or lose toil should be applied with the strictest economy, and with the assurance of the largest possible reward, and who can only preserve their self-respect and reach the highest prosperity, by carrying skill and intelligence into all their occupations. The work which is to accomplish that is called agricultural education, as a tribute, I doubt not, to that preparation which lies at the foundation of all others, and which stands most in need of an economizing and systematizing process. But, as I have said, it means more than this. Not to the soil alone, but to every industrial enterprise would we apply that skill which is founded on education. To the fertilization of our old lands, and the economical cultivation of our new ones; to a proper selection of animals for our various localities; to the best principles of feeding and the most nutritious condition of the articles of food; to the choice of crops; to the best modes of drainage; to the division of lands; to the preservation of forests; to the extermination of injurious and destructive insects; to the removal or prevention of disease; to the application of mechanical forces; to the value of plants; to the production of fruits; to the cultivation and choice of seeds; to the general economy of the farm; the business of agricultural education is devoted, with the firm belief that to the farms of our older States will be applied that skill which will bring them into the regions of prosperity and will devote them to the profitable production of health and life-giving food for a surrounding community; and that to the lands devoted to the great staples, and now subjected to rude and wasteful agriculture, a new and brighter, a more intelligent, and more civilized, and more independent, elevated, and dignified mode of farming will inevitably be exercised.

And when, having accomplished this, agricultural education shall also provide an ample supply of skilled engineers, and artisans, and surveyors, whose labor can be applied to all those enterprises in which an industrious and prosperous people are engaged, it will add but one more to the benefactions claimed for it by its advocates and friends. I set high price on all institutions of learning. They are and have been the pride and glory of our land. Their founder and benefactors stand at the head of that column of the great and the illustrious whom the American people love and honor. But in order that their list may be complete, and that every service in life may feel their benign influence, I would establish in every State an industrial college, from whose walls shall go forth on each succeeding year a band of well educated young men, capable of applying the best methods for the development of every industry, and of strengthening man's hand and encouraging his heart in all hardest fields of labor. To such institutions as those a free people is entitled. Already I find gathering around such as now exist an active and devoted body of students, whose minds are strengthened by the consideration of questions which belong to the active business of the world, and whose morals are sustained and elevated by the constant reminder, derived from their daily toil, that they belong to the useful forces of society, those forces which, when they respect themselves, secure the respect of others. I esteem it fortunate, therefore, for this society, that it has had an opportunity to aid and encourage those who are endeavoring to establish on a firm foundation the Industrial Education of our land. Commencing as we did, ten years ago, with the encouragement of John A. Andrew, who delivered our first annual address, and of Professor Agassiz, who took part in the discussions of that time, it is a duty which we owe the intelligent and philanthropic, to exert ourselves continually in the work of developing an agriculture founded on sound theory and skillful practice.

At no time in the history of our country have agricultural investigations been more active than they now are. While the industry has lost none of its prosperity, feeding forty millions of people, occupying five-sevenths of our laboring population, securing our financial success, providing a very large portion of our entire exports, it has received more than usual attention from those who study its laws. Since our last annual meeting, I have had the honor of addressing the students of the agricultural college in Maine, a vigorous and energetic institution, the influence of whose cultivated and scientific President is felt throughout the public exercises of the pupils;—of advocating the advantages of a State Board of Agriculture and a college before the legislature of Vermont:—of joining the State Society of New Hampshire in its annual discussions;—of meeting the farmers of Connecticut in popular assemblies;—and of taking part in the public exercises of the Agricultural College and many Societies of Massachusetts. And I am confident that neither is our agricultural industry declining, nor is the agricultural mind growing dull, nor is the agricultural heart becoming discouraged. In all this effort, I cannot doubt that the New England Agricultural Society will continue to perform its part well. The cordial reception it has met with in each of the New England States, the more than cordial reception it has met with for two successive years at the hands of the citizens of Lowell and the officers of the North Middlesex Agricultural Society, give assurance that it is engaged in a good work. I trust this work will long endure.

The address was frequently interrupted by hearty applause, and upon its conclusion, on motion of Mr. Gilman of New Hampshire, a vote of thanks was passed to Dr. Loring for his able, interesting and suggestive speech, and he was requested to furnish a copy for the press.

The records of the last meeting were then read by the Secretary, and approved.

Maj. Phinney, of Barnstable. The reading of the records reminds me of the fact that I moved, last year, for the renomination of the President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Society, and believing that one of the secrets of the success of the New England Agricultural Society, and the increasing interest in its exhibitions, both at home and abroad, has been, all over the New England States, lies in the fact that its management has been in the hands of practical business men, who are thoroughly acquainted with all the details. I again move that we proceed to elect, by acclamation, for President, Hon. Geo. B. Loring; for Secretary, Hon. Daniel Needham; and for Treasurer, Geo. W. Riddle, Esq., and I believe that in so doing, I express the sentiment of this large meeting. [Applause.]

Hon. Fred. Smyth, of New Hampshire. I heartily concur in the motion of Maj. Phinney, but I think there is a propriety in hearing the report of the Treasurer before electing the officers. It is possible that, after hearing his report, we may wish to change the Treasurer. I do not know absolutely what he has been doing until we hear his report. [Laughter.] I will ask Maj. Phinney, therefore, to withdraw his motion, until the report of the Treasurer is read.

Maj. Phinney withdrew his motion, and the Treasurer, Geo. W. Riddle, of Manchester, N. H., read his report, as follows:

Whole amount of money received at the Fair at Lowell, last September, from all sources,	$31,250.50
Paid premiums and expenses,	25,189.06
Balance of profit,	$6,061.44

Of this amount, $3500 had been paid to the Middlesex North Agricultural Society, and the balance $2,561.44 paid into the Treasury of the New England Agricultural Society.

Balance on hand in the treasury of the New England Society, Feb. 3, '72,	$3,588.52
Received from sundry sources,	3,329.44
Total,	$6,917.97
Paid sundry bills,	1,257.25
Leaving a balance in the treasury of	$5,660.72

These accounts were audited by Hon. Fred. Smyth, and pronounced correct and properly vouched.

Mr. Currier. I understand there were $6000 on hand after paying all bills. Since that, there seems to have been $1200 paid out. It appears to me that it would be well for us to know the items for which the $1200 were paid.

Mr. Riddle. The gentleman misunderstood me. The total amount received was $6,917.97, from which bills were paid amounting to $1,257.25. I will read the items.

Mr. Aaron Young, of Portsmouth. As the accounts have been audited, and found properly vouched, I do not suppose we care to hear all the items. I move that the report be accepted.

The President. It is moved that the Treasurer's report be accepted, with thanks, I will add, to him, for his valuable, useful and honest services. Carried.

Maj. Phinney. I now renew my motion, and I am happy to know that Gov. Smyth seconds it.

Gov. Smyth. Most heartily.

Secretary Needham. The Constitution provides that the officers must be elected by ballot. If the meeting chooses to authorize Maj. Phinney to deposit a ballot for the Executive officers, it can do so.

On motion, Maj. Phinney was appointed to cast the vote of the meeting, and the old officers were declared reelected, as follows:

PRESIDENT.

HON. GEO. B. LORING, of Salem.

SECRETARY.

HON. DANIEL NEEDHAM, of Groton.

TREASURER.

GEO. W. RIDDLE, of Manchester, N. H.

A recess was then taken of five minutes, to enable the several State delegations to make up their lists of Vice Presidents and Trustees. At the expiration of the time, the meeting was again called to order, and the following lists presented, and the gentlemen named elected.

VICE PRESIDENTS AND TRUSTEES.

MAINE.

Vice President—Hon. T. S. Lang of Augusta, Me. Trustees—S. L. Goodale of Saco, Seth Scamman of Scarboro', Frod. Atwood of Winterport, W. D. Eaton of Dexter, J. F. Anderson of North Windham, Rufus Prince of Turner, O. M. Shaw of Bangor, T. M. Richardson of Presque Isle, and S. T. Holbrook of Oxford.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Vice President—Hon. Frederick Smyth of Manchester, N. H. Trustees—D. H. Goodell of Antrim, Warren Brown of Hampton Falls, Charles Williams of Manchester, Geo. A. Pillsbury of Concord, Greenleaf Clark of Atkinson, Natt Head of Hookaett, Samuel C. Fisher of Dover, Peter W. Jones of Amherst, Chester Pike of Cornish.

VERMONT.

Vice President—E. S. Stowell of Cornwall. Trustees—George Campbell of Westminster West, Peleg Winslow of Putney, James A. Shedd of Burlington, T. S. Harkins of St Johnsbury, O. S. Bliss of Georgia, A. D. Ames of Montpelier, Thomas Baker of Barton, Henry Clark of Rutland, Austin A. Moore of East Berkshire.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Vice President—George B. Brown of Framingham. Trustees—S. H. Howe of Bolton, E. P. Carpenter of Foxboro', John Johnson, Jr., of Framingham, E. M. Reed of Lowell, C. B. Pratt of Worcester, S. B. Phinney of Barnstable, J. A. Harwood of Littleton, S. C. Oliver of Salem, John B. Moore of Concord.

RHODE ISLAND.

Vice President—Amasa Sprague of Cranston. Trustees—George F. Wilson of East Providence, Obadiah Brown of Manton, J. D. W. Perry of Bristol, Henry G. Russell of Warwick, William H. Hopkins of Providence, Nathan F. Dixon of Westerly, Henry T. Browne of Cumberland, A. B. Chadsey of Wickford and Wm. Elsbree of Cranston.

CONNECTICUT.

Vice President—E. H. Hyde of Stafford. Trustees—E. M. Wells of Wethersfield, Burdett Loomis of Windsor Locks, D. Willard of Southampton, Samuel Colt of Hartford, T. S. Gold of West Cornwall, H. L. Stewart of Middle Haddam and Jonathan Camp of Norwalk.

Col. S. H. Howe of Bolton.—I have been thinking over very seriously, for some time, the matter of the location of the next Fair. It seems to me it would be desirable to have it somewhere in the vicinity of the city of Boston. You are very well aware, sir, that the funds in the treasury are not very large, and I think if the Fair could be located very near this city, so that the population of Boston could attend it, it would bring a large amount of money into the treasury. There does not seem to be any one particularly anxious, at the present time, to have it held in any particular State, and I would move that the Executive officers be requested to make arrangements for holding the Fair at Mystic Park or Beacon Park. I think either of those Parks would be a suitable place to hold the Fair.

Peter Jones of Amherst, N. H., moved as an amendment, that the location of the Fair be left to the Executive officers.

Mr. Seth Scamman of Maine.—I hope the substitute will prevail. I think that the cause of the unparalleled success of the New England Agricultural Society is to be found in the fact that it has held its Exhibitions in the different New England States, and I believe that was one of the objects for which it was formed—to go to the several States of New England, and thus assist the societies in different localities in the great work in which they are engaged. I know that when the Society came to Maine, it called out a multitude of people, many of whom became interested in its objects, and are now engaged in the good work. So I believe it has been in New Hampshire, Vermont, and all the States of New England. Therefore I am heartily in favor of leaving this whole matter in the hands of the Executive officers, a body whom we have full confidence, as the election to-day has conclusively shown, that they will do what is for the best interests of the Society.

Mr. O. S. Bliss of Vermont.—I desire to endorse what Mr. Scamman has said, and in behalf of the very large and respectable delegation from Vermont, I express the hope that the amendment will prevail. I hope the day is not distant when we shall be able to invite the Society again to meet in Vermont. Indeed, it was the purpose of a good many to do so this year, but, at any rate, I trust we shall see our way clear to do it before long.

Col. Howe then withdrew his motion, and the motion offered by Mr. Jones was agreed to.

Col. Needham. I wish to offer a motion, which I think will show the feeling of this Society with regard to the expressions which have been made in the address of the President this morning, with reference to the management of the Agricultural Department of this Government:

Resolved, That inasmuch as the interests of agriculture and the education of the people in all its best principles possess an importance of the highest importance to this country, the farmers of New England demand a more comprehensive and active management of the Agricultural Department at Washington; and they also demand that some gentleman who has to a much larger extent the confidence of the people be called to its head. [Loud applause.]

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Geo. W. Wilson, of Rhode Island, and to make the vote more emphatic, it was taken by rising, and the resolution adopted unanimously.

The Society be presented to the President, Secretary and Treasurer, for their able and efficient management in their different departments during the past year, which motion was agreed to with great unanimity and heartiness, after which, on motion of Mr. Salmon of Lowell, the meeting adjourned.

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

THE ANGLO-RUSSIAN QUESTION—AN IMPORTANT RUMOR.

London, Jan. 29.—It is rumored that the differences between Great Britain and Russia on the Khivan question, instead of being in a fair way for a mutually satisfactory adjustment, are increasing, and that the Governments of France, Austria, Italy, Turkey, Denmark and Sweden will be represented at the British Government in the position assumed.

CRUELTIES PERPETRATED ON THE RUSSIANS BY THE KHIVANS.

St Petersburg, Jan. 30—Public opinion is in an excited state over accounts of atrocious cruelties perpetrated by the Khivans on the Russians who have fallen into their hands. The people are heartily in favor of the expedition against Khiva, and demand exemplary conduct of the Khan, and military preparations for a campaign are on a grand scale, and are being pushed with vigor. The total force will probably number 50,000 men. Princes and others of high rank are volunteering to accompany the army.

THE RECENT CARLIST DEFEAT.

Madrid, Jan. 30.—The defeat of the Carlist force under Gen. Mercado by Gen. Gonzales proves to have been a greater victory for the Royal troops than at first reported. Forty-seven insurgents were killed and over one hundred wounded. The defeat of the Carlists has produced the most favorable impression on the population. Many Carlists are throwing down their arms and returning to their homes.

HONORS TO AN AMERICAN.

Rome, Jan. 30.—Randolph Rogers, an American, has been made a member of the Roman Academy of St. Luke. He is the first citizen of the United States who has received this honor.

THE NORTHFLEET DISASTER—NAME OF THE COLLIDING STEAMER.

London, Jan. 31.—A telegraphic dispatch to the Lloyds from their agent at Cadiz, confirms the report that it was the Spanish steamer Murillo which ran into and sunk the emigrant ship Northfleet, off Dungeness Lighthouse, on the 22d inst. The steamer, however, was not sunk as was at one time believed, but has arrived at Cadiz in order to alter destination was London, from which port she had a cargo, but upon entering the harbor she was signalized not to land, as there is an extradition treaty between Portugal and Great Britain, under which the officers would have been surrendered to the British authorities to answer charges brought against them. She consequently put to sea again and proceeded to Cadiz, as there is no extradition treaty between Great Britain and Spain. The Murillo sustained no damage by the collision.

HEALTH OF JOHN BRIGHT.

Hon. John Bright announces his intention of reappearing in Parliament during the coming season, his health having been so far restored as to enable him to resume his duties as a member.

ANOTHER CARLIST DEFEAT.

A force of Government troops under Gen. Mercado defeated a band of Carlists in the north, yesterday, killing, wounding and capturing a large number. Gen. Moriones, commander of the royal forces in Navarre and the Basque Provinces, has established his headquarters at Alsasua.

THE SLAVERY QUESTION IN SPAIN.

Petitions to Congress for the abolition of slavery continue to come from all parts of the kingdom. The report of the Committee on the Abolition of Slavery in Porto Rico was presented to the Lower House of the Cortes yesterday. The Government has promised to allow a full discussion of the subject.

CUBAN SLAVERY.

The official census returns show that there are now 269,000 slaves in Cuba.

THE SULTAN TO ATTEND THE VIENNA EXPOSITION.

Constantinople, Feb. 1.—The Sultan will attend the Vienna Exhibition. He will leave the Government in charge of Yssuf Izzeddin Effendi; and, before starting, will proclaim the latter heir to the Turkish throne.

THE CARLISTS STILL ACTIVE.

Madrid, Feb. 2.—During the session of the lower House of the Cortes, yesterday, Senor Zorilla, President or the Cabinet Council, asked for an appropriation of 12 000,000 reals to enable the Government to put telegraph lines throughout the kingdom in thorough working order. In reply to a question by a Deputy in reference to the insurrectionary movements, Zorilla said he regretted to announce many excesses being committed by roving Carlist bands. The royal forces, however, were active and were vigorously pursuing the insurgents, but the Government had received intelligence of the destruction of Maestrazzos by a band of Carlists, the defeat of Boboli's band and the complete rout of another force of 1200 insurgents, with the loss of 28 killed, including two priests. It was expected that the insurrection would soon be ended and communication with France would be restored at an early day. There is no communication with Bilbao, except by sea, and an attack on that town by the Carlists is apprehended. The railway between Alsasua and Benain has been cut by insurgents, and the running of trains between those places is suspended.

THE RUSSIAN FORCES IN CENTRAL ASIA.

Berlin, Feb. 2.—The Vessische Ceitung, of this city, demonstrates that the Russian forces in Central Asia are strong enough to defy any attempt of the British to check their progress and England is powerless. Russia is only waiting for a false step on the part of England.

READ AND RUN.

— Canada is still pushing forward her designs for a Pacific Road.

— The Credit Mobilier revelations are like a conflagration that will not stop until the material is all consumed.

— There is one thing pretty sure, if murders, or suicides, and that class of human horrors continue at the rate they do now, the newspapers will either be obliged to condense them into a smaller space or drop them out of sight altogether, unless there is a general newspaper enlargement.

— The Russian forces are reported to be strong enough in Central Asia to defy any power which the British can bring against them.

— The franking privilege has at last been abolished, by the signature of the President to the bill passed previously by Congress. Provision now remains to be made for the free mail carriage of Government matter.

— Sardines have been driven upon the Cornish coasts of England in immense numbers, and they are consequently very cheap.

— The fanciers of pigeons' necks are now employed in making up muffs, and of course they are a sensation.

— A croquet gallery is erecting in a New York house, the floor to be carpeted with green and the walls to be frescoed as summer landscapes.

— Mark Twain's charity lecture receipts in Hartford amounted to fifteen hundred dollars.

— A lecture on the United States is naturally to be the first thing from Mr. Froude, after getting fairly domesticated again.

— The new loan of three hundred millions is now fairly launched, and promises to be all taken without delays.

— The most terrific snow storm known in years buried Great Britain completely up, last Saturday night. The snow fell to

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

THE LATE EXHIBITION
—OF THE—
MASS. POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

The second exhibition of the Massachusetts Poultry Association opened at the Music Hall in Boston on the 14th of January.

Before one fairly entered the Hall the continuous crowing of the feathered tribe, with every imaginable gradation from the not unmusical challenge of the big Cochins, to the shrill piping of the little Bantams, produced a curious effect and seemed to herald the fact in advance that the friends of poultry were holding high carnival within.

Upon entering, one could not fail to be struck with the admirable arrangements for exhibiting the occupants of the long lines of cages which ran parallel with the length of the Hall, receiving thereby the best possible light from the numerous windows on either side, being in this respect a marked improvement over the plan adopted last year, where the coops being placed transversely many of the fowls were thrown into the shade and could not be fairly seen. Each family and class were placed in groups, so that the admirers of each specialty had a good opportunity for inspection. The police arrangements were very good, and though the Hall was crowded during a large portion of the time, there was no disorder or unnecessary obstruction. The president, Mr. Philander Williams, and other members of the executive committee were at their posts and everything was done to promote the comfort and satisfaction of the visitors.

And certainly, it was an exhibition of which any association might well be proud, whether viewed esthetically as a collection of birds in their best plumage, where delicious harmonies and contrasts of color and form delight the eye of the connoisseur, as a collection showing what gratifying results have been brought about by scientific breeding, or as a sort of barometer, showing the different degrees of popularity which the several breeds had attained, it was equally interesting. There were no less than two hundred and fifty cages of what are called Asiatic families, all of colossal size; "White Cochins" with plumage white as fresh fallen snow; the "Buffs," exhibiting a singularly harmonious tint of buff, without a black feather to mar their perfection. "Partridge Cochins," whose delicate pencilling reminded one of the bird from which this variety takes its name; the "Light Brahmas," with their clearly marked shading of black over creamy white, and the darker varieties, culminating in the Black Cochin, with plumage dark as the raven's wing. Next to these the beautiful family of "Game" fowl, of which there were some fifty-six cages, seemed to rank second in the scale of popularity; and certainly no class more completely filled the eye with a color, or perfection of form. In fact, no other fowl can compare with these as the result of many years of careful breeding.

We were struck with one peculiarity of these birds, their quietness. They seemed only to accept the situation, so to speak, as being having a much maligned reputation and were anxious to fight than any others; they seemed to repose in a consciousness of their own prowess and left the crowing to more plebeian birds. But what we can do justice to their exquisite plumage and glistening as burnished steel, the Duckwings, whose silvery hackles and wings contrasted so beautifully with their black breasts and sickle feathers of dark irridescent green, that one might well wish that they might never moult a feather, to the black-breasted Reds, in their superb liveries of gleaming red and black, keen hawk eyed and, every one, to the Piles, Brass Backs, Ginnum Whites, Spangled and Blues, the whole forming a bouquet of color and symmetry of form which may be imagined, perhaps, but which cannot be described. Then there were twenty-six cages of White Leghorns, fine bred birds whose snowy plumage contrasted well with their combs and wattles of bright coral. Plump, beautifully modeled Silver Grey Dorkings, much the finest yet exhibited; Plymouth Rock Fowl, with their fine mottled plumage and full ample forms; the quaint Gold and Silver Hamburgs, with their crescent shaped edgings of black on white and golden grounds, and last not least the little Game and Sebright Bantams, miniatures of their larger prototypes, must have delighted every one who beheld them.

The display of turkeys was very meagre, but the aquatic fowl, though few in number, were fine specimens of their kind, especially the White Swans, Bremen, India and Wild Canada Geese and Aylesbury and Rowen Ducks.

The Cochins.

One of the prominent features of this class, was the large number of the white variety, which showed great improvement in breeding, being much heavier, fuller breasted, and with shorter legs than the old "White Shanghai" as it used to be called.

It is impossible in this report to mention individual names to any extent as it would far exceed the space allotted to it, yet we cannot forbear to mention in this connection that the contributions of William H. Brackett of Boston, Stutevant Brothers of South Framingham, E. C. Tuttle of Boston, Mark Pitman of North Beverly, John P. Burrell of Clinton, Damon & Marshall of Cochituate, Col. George A. Meacham of North Cambridge, and Philander Williams, Taunton, were especially brilliant.

Among the cages contributed by these gentlemen and others, we notice some very fine black Cochins. This is a strain which is comparatively in its infancy, but we are glad to see such good results already, and hope to see a still larger display next year.

The Buff Cochins were perhaps not so fully represented as last year, but their quality was never surpassed, and the "Light Brahmas" and "Partridge Cochins" presented the most gratifying and splendid display in the country, we think it has not been excelled anywhere.

Game Fowl.

The contributions of Messrs. P. W. Hudson of North Manchester, Conn.; John C. Dillon of Amherst, Mass.; A. J. Colburn, Boston, and D. B. Wallace of Lynnfield, Mass., were especially meritorious. The Silver Duckwing chickens of Mr. Hudson were particularly fine.

Plymouth Rocks.

We were very glad to see many fine coops of this noble breed, showing that it is rapidly growing into favor. There are few fowls which are more substantial and handsome in appearance. Their most appropriate name would be "improved Dominiques," as they are entirely unlike the fowl of that name originated by Dr. Bennett many years ago. They must be classed as one of the most valuable breeds of the country, and are certain to become more and more popular. There were some excellent cages also of Dominique fowl, which were well worthy of notice.

Leghorns.

There was a very good show of these beautiful fowls, especially of the white variety. Some very good cages of the brown were shown, but the blue strain was poorly represented.

Black Spanish

Of this variety there were only a few cages, but these were very excellent. This breed seems to have lost much of its former popularity.

Dorkings.

There were no White Dorkings on exhibition, which surprised us, as this is one of the standard breeds. There were however some very superb specimens of the "Silver Gray" and colored varieties. There is no fowl which has so much white meat on the breast as this, and its harmony of color is very striking. We hope to see more of these at the next exhibition, though the display was much superior to the very meagre one of last year.

Hamburghs.

There were very fine cages of the "Silver Spangled" and "Golden" varieties, and we are surprised, considering the extraordinary beauty of this fowl, as well as its great laying qualities, that there was not a larger number on exhibition.

Polands.

There was an unusually fine display of this beautiful variety, the black, white, gold and silver spangled being all capitally represented. This is perhaps the most picturesque of all breeds—particularly the black variety—where the Snow White Turbans are contrasted with its raven plumage. We noticed one fine coop of Su tans, which are a comparatively rare bird in this locality, and are distinguished from all others by the profusion of white feathers which almost conceal even the legs.

The French Breeds.

Of these breeds the Houdans were decidedly in the ascendant. There were some good cages of these, though we thought hardly equal to some exhibited last year. The hens and pullets were better than the cocks—the last not being so large as those of the last exhibition. The French are most valuable breeds, and we hope their popularity will increase. We noticed only one coop of Creve Cœurs, which were very fine specimens. The La Fleche was unrepresented.

Bantams.

There was a beautiful show of Sebright and Game Bantams, which were a great attraction.

Pigeons.

The display of fancy pigeons was very large, embracing nearly every known variety—and formerly one of the most beautiful features of the exhibition. The principal contributors were H. S. Ball of Shrewsbury, and Wm. H. Churchman of Wilmington, Del. Two handsome collections of stuffed birds and animals graced the platform, and a very interesting collection of rabbits and squirrels. Among the former, Silver Grays and Himalayas were perhaps the most striking—the gray Fox Squirrel, in which the gray was beautifully blended with the black, was a very unique and pretty animal.

The "Incubator" of Jacob Graves was in full operation during the whole of the exhibition, and perhaps nothing drew so large a crowd. Chickens were emerging from the shell at almost every minute, and under the artificial mother were little chicks of every age from an hour to four weeks old. It was certainly one of the trump cards of the exhibition—as was manifested by the throngs gathered around it almost from the opening to the close.

Aquatic Fowl.

We have before alluded to the show of Aquatic Fowl. Though inferior in point of numbers to other departments, the geese and ducks were generally good specimens of the breed. The Bremen Geese were particularly good, and one coop of India. We missed our old favorites the "Black Cayugas," which ought not to be unrepresented in an exhibition like this, and we hope to see some another year. The Rouens were very good generally and the Aylesburys excellent. Nor must we omit to mention some very beautiful swans and wild geese which were greatly admired.

A very interesting group of cage birds were also upon the platform, including Bullfinch, Song Thrush, Sky Lark, Cardinal bird, Cockatoo, green, red and gray Parrots, and in another part of the Hall we noticed a very fine crested Currassow.

A word of mention should be made of the excellent sanitary condition of the fowls. This was due in part from very efficient action of the committee having it in charge, but largely to the fact that the great majority of the cages were well constructed in accordance with the third rule of the Association. The importance of air or ventilation can hardly be overrated. A great many of the cages were made and finished by Mr. E. P. Laurence of Worcester, and were very admirable. We noticed particularly a large number made by the above for William H. Brackett, where there was a movable partition, the cock being in one compartment and the hens or pullets forming the trio in the other, which struck us as a very excellent arrangement, as it happens not unfrequently that the cock proves a great tyrant when brought into close quarters with hens, not especial favorites. These coops have the additional advantage of being easily folded into a small space and reconstructed without the use of nails, hammer, strings or screws.

Some few coops were a discredit to the owner and an insult to the fowls put into them. We hope to see no coops to complain of another year.

Before concluding this report it is due to the executive officers of the Association to state that great credit is due them for the exertions made to secure the success of the Exhibition in the face of discouragements which well might have appalled a body of less determined men.

The labor of preparing the rules and premium lists by a subcommittee, of which Wm. H. Brackett was chairman had just completed their arduous labors and placed them in the printer's hands when the disastrous fire destroyed all the forms, and it was only with the greatest difficulty after weeks of delay that the premium lists were published within a few days of the closing of the entries.

The fact that notwithstanding these adverse circumstances there were 805 entries against 689 of last year is very remarkable.

Great credit is due to Mr. Elbridge C. Comey, Chairman of the Committee on printing, by whose energy the printing was finally achieved under such difficulties, to Mr. C. E. Tuttle, Corresponding Secretary, and to Mr. I. Newton Cady, for their promptness in sending out premium lists in the short time left to them,—to Mr. Philander Williams, the excellent President of the Association—Mr. Nathaniel Foster, Treasurer, and W. B. Atkinson, Secretary, officers of the Association, who did everything in their power to assure the success of the Exhibition.

When we consider all the untoward circumstances which the Association had to encounter, not the least of which was the small pox epidemic, then nearly at its height, and the unfavorable weather during the closing days, we feel that in congratulating the officers upon the grand success of the second exhibition we pay them a compliment which their energy and wise management has richly earned. The results of this Exhibition will be felt in the fresh impetus which it has given to the culture of this beautiful branch of ornithology, in the diffusion of a more accurate knowledge of the science of Breeding, and in the introduction of a higher esthetic taste throughout the poultry and farmyards of the country. It is an innocent and ennobling taste which all parents who have the opportunity should encourage in their boys. It induces habits of forethought and humane consideration for the animal world which is not without its moral results. Every society is to a certain extent, without avowing it—*also a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals*, and should on that account alone be encouraged.

R.

THE NEW YORK FRAUD TRIALS.—The trial of William H. Tweed, commonly called "Boss Tweed," who appears to have been the leader of the ring which robbed the city of New York of untold millions of dollars was ended last week by the disagreement of the jury, who stood seven for acquittal and five for conviction. The disclosures made at the trial were most astounding, although the main facts had been made known by the newspapers at the time of their discovery. The trial was long delayed, and it is stated as a reason of the disagreement of the jury that several of Tweed's friends were on it, who would not have convicted him on any evidence. A new trial is expected to be had with another jury.

☞ The *New York Medical Review* for January is a very valuable and interesting number. It is edited by Dr. E. S. McClellan, and published at $2.00 a year.

☞ Mr. Charles Dwight, 76 State Street, whose card appears in another column, advertises a good paying investment, which deserves the attention of those who are searching for such. It is Kansas Registered Town and County bonds at ten per cent.

☞ Those who are inquiring for safe and reliable insurance companies, in which to place their risks, are recommended to call on Mr. Samuel H. Rhoades, whose office is in the Old State House, who has a long established reputation.

AN ESTABLISHED REMEDY.—"*Brown's Bronchial Troches*" are widely known as an established remedy for *Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Hoarseness*, and other troubles of the *Throat and Lungs*.

☞ We would call the attention of our readers to the advertisement in another column, of the Brooks Sewing Machine Co. of New York; they advertise what is indeed a valuable invention, a first-class Sewing Machine for five dollars.

☞ Burnett's Cocoaine needs only to be tried. It dresses the hair beautifully.

New Advertisements.

VICTOR HORSE HOE.
BEST AND CHEAPEST
STEEL HOE in use.
THOROUGHLY Pulverizes and works close to plants, RAKE Attach's workes the weeds out, has Hilling Plows and Premium SILVER MEDAL Now England Fair, 1872.
EAGLE SEED SOWER, Plants in Hills or Drill 4 Sizes Prices $6 to $16.
CLIPPER WHEEL HOE, 4s & $5.50. Agents Wanted
Address E. D. & O. B. REYNOLDS,
(Circulars Free.) NORTH BRIDGEWATER, MASS.
feb8-eow-12t

STANDARD
BOTANICAL TEXT BOOKS
By ASA GRAY, M. D., Fisher Prof. Harvard University.
MORE EXTENSIVELY IN USE THAN ALL OTHERS COMBINED.
This justly celebrated series of Text Books presents the latest and most accurate Principles of Botanical Science.
HOW PLANTS GROW.—The most charming Elementary Scientific Text Book ever published. Fully illustrated. Price, $1.12.
THE SCHOOL AND FIELD BOOK.—The most thorough, practical, and best adapted work for class use published. Recommended by the most eminent Professors and Teachers in the country. Price, $2.50.
Lessons and Manual.....$3.00.
Structural Botany.....$3.50.
Liberal terms offered for Introduction. Samples of any of the above, for examination, will be forwarded by mail on receipt of price.
Send for full descriptive circulars.
IVISON, BLAKEMAN, TAYLOR & CO.,
138 & 140 Grand Street, N. Y.
feb8-eow2t

"YET THERE IS ROOM,"
Although working night and day to send Chromos to the thousands who are renewing their subscriptions there *still is room* for 100,000 new subscribers. Elegant Prang Chromo and splendid story paper a whole year for only $1. Send at once and secure ALL the papers and Chromo which is sent by FIRST MAIL. No humbug or swindle. *Satisfaction guaranteed*, or we give back your money. Try it NOW. Agents wanted. Specimen 6 cents. Only $1 for a whole year. Send now. Refer to *N. Y. Tribune, Wood's Magazine*, and the great News Co's. *Now is the time to invest $1.* Address Star Spangled Banner, Hinsdale, N. H. 10t-16

New Advertisements.
FOR WINTER USE.

SPECIAL ATTENTION is called to our Large Stock of
PORTABLE FARMERS' BOILERS and FEEDING STEAMERS,
FAN MILLS, HAY, STALK and VEGETABLE CUTTERS,
CORN SHELLERS,
HAY AND LARD PRESSES,
GRAIN MILLS, HORSE POWERS,
PORTABLE CIRCULAR SAW MILLS,
THRESHERS AND CLEANERS,
CHURNS, CORN COB CRUSHERS,
MEAT CUTTERS and
SAUSAGE STUFFERS,
AXES, OX YOKES AND BOWS.

ICE TOOLS.

Ames Plow Company,
Quincy Hall, Boston, and
53 Beekman St., New York.
☞ Price Lists and Descriptive Circulars on application.
feb8-tf

MILLIONS OF ACRES
Iowa and Nebraska LANDS
FOR SALE BY THE
Burlington & Mo. River R. R. Co.
On Ten Years' Credit at 6 per cent. Interest.
Products will pay for the land and improvements much within the limit of this generous credit. Better terms are not offered, and probably never will be.
Circulars giving full particulars, grads; call for all that are wanted to circulate.
Come West and thrive, Friends will follow.
A Sectional Map, showing the exact location of Iowa lands is sold at 30 cents, and of Nebraska lands at same price. For Circulars and Maps apply to
GEO. S. HARRIS,
Land Commissioner, Burlington, Iowa.
☞ And please say in what Paper this advertisement was seen. feb8-4t

CORTICELLI
SPOOL SILK.
BEST IN THE WORLD.
Size, Length and Quality Warranted.
Secure this and you will use no other.
Sold by the leading jobbers and retailers. feb8-18t

Vick's FLORAL GUIDE FOR 1873.
The GUIDE is now published QUARTERLY. 35 cents pays for the year, four numbers, which is not half the cost. Those who afterwards send money to the amount of *One Dollar* or more for Seeds, may also order Twenty-five Cents worth extra—the price paid for the Guide.
The *January Number* is beautiful, giving plans for making **Rural Homes**, Designs for **Dining Table Decorations, Window Gardens, &c.**, and containing a mass of information invaluable to the lover of flowers.—One Hundred and Fifty pages, on fine tinted paper, some Five Hundred Engravings and a superb **Colored Plate** and **Chromo Cover.**—The First Edition of Two HUNDRED THOUSAND just printed in English and German, and ready to send out.
JAMES VICK,
Rochester, N. Y.
feb8-2t

WASHINGTON
FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE CO.,
WITH A CASH CAPITAL OF
$300,000,
WILL INSURE Ships, Cargoes and Freights against Marine perils, and Buildings, Merchandise, Furniture, Farm Property, &c. &c. against FIRE—not exceeding $30,000 in any one risk—at Office, No. 74 State Street.
ISAAC SWETSER, President.
BENJAMIN SWETSER, Secretary.

DIRECTORS—John T. Coolidge, M. H. Simpson, John L. Gardner, Jr., H. M. Whitney, Wm. F. Freeman, J. H. Eveleth, Isaac Young, Isaac Sweetser, T. J. Coolidge, Geo. Atkinson, Mathew Bartlett, J. H. Thorndike, Robert B. Perkins. feb8-13t

1873 BOSTON ALMANAC 1873
—AND—
Business Directory.
Containing all the usual information, such as Events of the year, Calendar and Statistics, Lists of Officers, &c., Also National, State and County Officers, City Government, Sessions of Courts, and a full and correct
BUSINESS DIRECTORY of the CITY, &c.
Also a MAP OF BOSTON AND VICINITY and a DIRECTORY OF THE BURNT DISTRICT.
Price, Cloth 75 cents. Full Gilt $1. Published by
SAMPSON, DAVENPORT & CO.
Globe Theatre Building, 356 Washington Street.
And for sale by Booksellers and Periodical dealers generally. feb8-4t

THE NEW ENGLAND MUTUAL Life Insurance Co.
39 State Street, Boston.

Accumulation.....$9,853,000
Return of Surplus, 1872.....$460,000
At risk on 22,000 lives,
$68,000,000.
$30,000 insurance upon single lives.
For information as to rates of premium, modes of insurance, applications, etc., apply personally or by letter at the office of the Company.
BENJ. F. STEVENS,
PRESIDENT
JOS. M. GIBBINS, SECRETARY
DWIGHT FOSTER, COUNSEL.
W. W. MORLAND, M. D., MEDICAL EXAMINER.
feb1-52t

SEE In another column, advertisement about **Iowa and Nebraska Lands.** feb8-3t

SEEDS GIVEN AWAY
TO EVERY LOVER OF FLOWERS I am now prepared to send a package of Choice Flower Seeds and a copy of PARK'S ILLUSTRATED FLORAL GAZETTE. Address, with stamp, G. W. PARK, Fanneltburgh, Pa. feb8-2t

GOOD WORDS FOR THE PAIN-KILLER.
We can confidently recommend the Pain-Killer.—Toronto Baptist.
It is the most effectual remedy we know of for Aches, Pains, flesh wounds, &c.—St. John's News, P. Q.
We advise that every family should have so effectual and speedy a Pain-Killer.—Amherst N. S. Gazette.
Our own experience is that a bottle of Pain-Killer is the best Physician a traveller can have.—Hamilton Spectator.
For both internal and external applications have found it of great value.—Chris. Era.
A medicine no family should be without.—Montreal Transcript.
Could hardly keep house without it.—Ed. Voice.
Should be kept in every house, in readiness for sudden attacks of sickness.—Chris. Press.
No article ever obtained such unbounded popularity.—Salem Observer.
One of the most reliable specifics of the age.—Old North State.
Its power is wonderful and unequalled in relieving the most severe pain.—Burlington Sentinel.
An indispensable article in the medicine chest.—N. Y. Examiner.
It will recommend itself to all who use it.—Georgia Enterprise.
Is extensively used and sought after as a really useful medicine.—Journal, St. John, N. B.
The medicine has acquired such a reputation; it has real merit.—Newport Daily News.
One of the most useful medicines; have used it and dispensed it for the past twenty years.—Rev. Wm. Ward, Newark.
The most valuable medicine now in use.—Tenn. Organ.
It is really a valuable medicine, and used by many physicians.—Boston Traveler.
We always keep it where we can put our hands on it in the dark, if need be.—Rev. C. Hibbard, Burmah.
One of the few articles that are just what they pretend to be.—Brunswick Telegraph.
In my mountain travels no medicine is of so universal application as Pain-Killer.—Rev. M. H. Bixby, Burmah.
PERRY DAVIS & SON,
MANF'R AND PROP'S,
186 HIGH ST., PROVIDENCE, R. I.
111 SYCAMORE ST., CINCINNATI, O.
377 ST. PAUL ST., MONTREAL, CANADA.
17 SOUTHAMPTON, ROW, LONDON, ENG.
Jan25-4t

Cure for Consumption
What the Doctors Say:
AMOS WOOLEY, M. D., of Kosciusko county, Ind., says: "For three years past I have used **Allen's Lung Balsam** extensively in my practice, and I am satisfied there is no better medicine for lung disease in use."
ISAAC A. DORAN, M. D., of Logan county, O., says: of **Allen's Lung Balsam** not only sells rapidly but gives perfect satisfaction in every case within my knowledge. Having confidence in it and knowing that it possesses valuable medicinal properties, I freely use in my daily practice with unbounded success. As an expectorant it is most certainly far ahead of any preparations I have ever yet known."
NATHANIEL HARRIS, M. D., of Middlebury, Vt., says: "I have no doubt it will soon become a classical remedial agent for the cure of all diseases of the Throat, Bronchial Tubes and the Lungs."
Physicians do not recommend a medicine which has no merits; what they say about
ALLEN'S LUNG BALSAM,
Can be taken as a fact. Let all afflicted test it at once
☞ Sold by all Medicine Dealers. Jan25-4t

New Advertisements.
CATTLE
AND other stock should be kept in the best condition this severe weather if you want them to be of profit to you and to come out looking well in the spring.
There is nothing better for this purpose than the various Root crops, and the best machine to cut them up is
WILLIS' IMPROVED ROOT CUTTER,
which we warrant to cut one bushel roots per minute easily, and it will last 20 years with no expense for repairs.
PRICE $16.00.
Five per cent off if cash accompanies the order.
JOSEPH BRECK & SONS,
51 & 52 North Market St., Boston.
feb8-3t

GEO. H. MORRILL'S
GRUB EXTERMINATOR
For the Protection of Fruit Trees from the ravages of the Grub and Canker Worms.
146 Washington Street, Boston.
Formerly 86 Water Street. feb8-2t

MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL
INSURANCE CO.,
39 Court Street, Boston.
This Company, with a paid-up Cash Capital of
$200,000,
is prepared to insure against FIRE or LIGHTNING, in the City or Country, DWELLINGS and HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE.
ONE-FOURTH of the profits to be retained as a Reserve Fund. THREE-FOURTHS of the profits to be divided to the Policy Holders.
DIRECTORS.
William T. Andrews, William Perkins,
Jeffrey Richardson, Nath'l J. Bradlee,
George H. Kuhn, Charles U. Cotting,
Peter C. Brooks, C. William Loring,
Nath'l H. Emmons, Edward W. Codman,
H. H. Hunnewell, Samuel E. Williams,
Thomas Wigglesworth, Charles B. Cumings.
CHAS. B. CUMINGS, President.
JOHN M. CORBETT, Secretary. feb8-12t

A New Tomato!
I INTRODUCE this season a new Tomato, the Canada Victor, see reading matter in this paper, *which is probably the earliest of all varieties.* It combines just what it wanted, of color, excellent quality, large size, the round shape, solidity, richness of color, with an entire freedom from greenness and cracking around the stem and first class cropping qualities. Single packets of 25 seeds, 25 cts; five packets, $1.00. Packets of 25 seeds selected from the finest, 50 cts. each. My seed Catalogue free to all.
Dealers supplied at a liberal discount.
JAMES J. H. GREGORY,
feb8-11tamh1a8 Marblehead, Mass.

THE ROSS SYSTEM OF CULTIVATION.
FOR ALL HOED CROPS, with the ROSS HORSE PLANTER and HORSE CULTIVATOR AND HOE, exceeds all others for thorough cultivation, killing weeds and raising large crops. Expense of planting and hoeing an acre of corn three times on fair land, will not exceed two dollars, at three dollars a day for man and horse.—Equally as good for potatoes and tobacco. Appreciated the most on a stiff, heavy, clay soil, raising it perfectly mellow and free as old land. Prices vary from $8 to $25.
For further information inquire of
feb1-17t ROSS & CO., Northfield, Mass.

I was the first to introduce to the public the Hubbard Squash, American Turban Squash, Marblehead Mammoth Cabbage, Mexican Sweet Corn, Phinney's Watermelon, and many other

New and Valuable Vegetables.
This season I have a new and exceedingly valuable Squash, new varieties of corn, three fine melons, and other choice new vegetables for my customers.
My business is to supply, what every good farmer is anxious to get, the *very best* of vegetable seed. I grow a hundred and fifty kinds on my four seed farms, right under my own eye, *making new vegetables a specialty*, besides importing their choicest varieties from European growers. A fine selection of flower seed, home grown and imported, will also be found in my Catalogue, which will be sent *free* to all applicants.
As stated in my Catalogue, all my seed is sold under three warrants. 1st; *That all money sent shall reach me* 2d; *That all seed ordered shall reach the purchaser.* 3d; *That my seeds shall be fresh and true to name.*
JAMES J. H. GREGORY,
Jan25-12t Marblehead, Mass.

RELIABLE INSURANCE.
OFFICE OF
REED & BROTHER,
No. 2 Old State House.....Boston.

SPRINGFIELD
Fire and Marine Insurance Comp'y
Cash Capital.....$500,000
Assets.....$1,100,000

Meriden Fire Insurance Company,
OF MERIDEN, CONN.
Cash Capital.....$200,000
Assets.....$245,000

People's Insurance Company,
OF NEWARK, N. J.
Cash Capital.....$200,000
Assets.....$300,000
These Companies are sound and reliable, and prepared to issue policies as usual. Losses adjusted and payable in Boston.
REED & BROTHER,
feb1-2t AGENTS.

OVERCOATS
—AND—
WINTER CLOTHING,
Unequalled in Style, Beauty and Durability.
The season being somewhat advanced, we are selling at reduced prices.
CUSTOM DEPARTMENT.
Our Store having been cut off in the back part, we have added the Chambers for Custom Clothing, and employ the highest talent, both in the cutting and making clothing to measure, and are selling at bargains to reduce stock of Ready Piece Goods. Cloth sold by the yard, and cut if desired.
FURNISHING GOODS.
We have a full stock, including all the novelties. Particular attention paid to the shirt trade, ready made or to order. Shirt patterns cut.
L. D. BOISE & SON,
Tailors and Clothiers,
30 & 32 Washington Street,
sep25-52t Between State St. and Cornhill, Boston.

SEE In another column, advertisement about **Iowa and Nebraska Lands.** feb8-3t

ORANGE COUNTY STUD BOOK,
THIS book contains the only reliable history ever published of
Hambletonian and American Star,
together with much other valuable information.
"The book is worthy of a large sale."—Spirit. (Orange County Press, December 1872.
Mailed, postage paid, on receipt of $2. Address,
J. HOWELL, REEVES,
Unionville, Orange County, N. Y.

C. C. CHAMBERLIN & CO.,
COMMISSION MERCHANTS,
And Dealers in
BUTTER, CHEESE, EGGS &C.,
Nos. 70 & 81 Faneuil Hall Market,
C. C. CHAMBERLIN, A. W. CHAMBERLIN, FRANK E. SULLIVAN. } BOSTON.
Butter and Cheese Packed for Shipping. Jan18-52t

To Market Gardeners.
A SMART, ENTERPRISING MAN, with some means, can have a five years' lease of about 40 acres of upland, with marsh and bench privilege, very near Boston. Good House and Barn, and fine exposure. Apply at 20 Court Street, Room 6, Boston. jan25-4t

CHILBLAINS.
KENNEDY'S Salt Rheum Ointment
CURES
Chilblains, Frost Bites, Chapped Hands and Lips, and all Skin Diseases.
Price 50 Cents. Sold by Druggists. Jan18-52t

To Farmers and Marketmen.
YOU want none but the very best of seed, grown from carefully selected seed stock. With the money you have to invest in manure, help and glass, you know you cannot afford to use any other; you feel very anxious about it; THAT MINE. Catalogue free to all.
N. B.—Call in the Spring and see what onions, cabbages, &c. &c. I set out to grow seed from.
JAMES J. H. GREGORY,
Marblehead, Mass.

For Sale.
BLACK BREASTED DARK BRAHMA COCKS. Also, GOLDEN SPANGLED HAMBURGHS, stock imported in 1868.
ALBERT ELLSWORTH,
feb1-tf Worcester, Mass.

TO THE WORKING CLASS, male or female $60 a week guaranteed. Respectable employment at home, day or evening; no capital required; full instructions and valuable package of goods to start with, sent free by mail. Address, with 6 cent return stamp, M. YOUNG & CO., 16 Courtlandt St., New York. feb1-4t

THE BEST THING IN THE WEST!
3,000,000
ACRES LANDS
IN THE
UPPER ARKANSAS VALLEY,
The Finest Portion of Kansas,
consisting of the alternate sections granted by Government in aid of the construction of the
Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad.
The intermediate lands are subject to Homesteads and Preemptions.
The facts about this grant are: ELEVEN YEARS' CREDIT—LOW PRICES—A RICH SOIL AND SPLENDID CLIMATE—SHORT AND MILD WINTERS—PLENTY OF RAIN FALL, and just at the right season—FREE TRANSPORTATION TO THOSE WHO PURCHASE LAND.
For Circulars and information, apply to
C. N. PRATT, Agent,
134 Washington Street, Boston.
Or, E. A. TOUZALIN,
Land Manager, Topeka, Kansas.
jan18-4t

SAMUEL DAVIS, 3d.,
REAL ESTATE AGENT,
Special attention paid to purchasing or selling
SMALL OR LARGE TRACTS OF LAND,
Either in or out of the City.
No. 1 PEMBERTON SQUARE, Room 1.
nov25-52t BOSTON.

Farm to Let.
To be let for two or three years, a Farm containing about fifty acres of land, situated in East Lexington nine miles from Boston. For particulars inquire of the subscriber on the premises.
J. GAMMELL.
East Lexington, Jan. 25, 1873. feb1-tf

Farm for Sale.
One of the best Farms in Worcester County, situated in Westboro, convenient to Railroads, Schools, Churches, Mills, &c.—Price low and terms of payment easy. Call on or address
jan18-12t* S. GROW, Westboro', Mass.

Farm for Sale or Exchange.
The subscriber has two valuable and improved Prairie Farms in Sauk County, Wisconsin, which he will sell or exchange for Eastern Real Estate. Address, J. M. McAFFEE,
jan11-tf No. 204 West Springfield Street, Boston.

For Sale.
Wachusett Mountain situated in Princeton, Mass., containing about 600 acres, 400 of it is covered with a good growth of Oak, Beech, Maple and Hemlock timber 3 miles from Depot, Worcester Gardner & Barre Railroad. Good stone house on summit. Also Jones Hill situated in Princeton (a beautiful site for a country residence) containing 100 acres, 75 of which is the best pasture in Worcester county. 25 acres (in one piece) of prime upland mowing all of it is cut with a machine.
JOHN BROOKS, Princeton, Mass.
Nov9-tf

TO FARMERS!
WE WANT AN AGENT in every town to sell
PARTRIDGE FORKS.
Send for Circulars and Price List, mailed to you free upon application, and inform us in *what paper* you saw this notice.
SHUMWAY & COMPANY,
Manufacturers.
HAY, STRAW, MANURE AND SPADING FORKS, OYSTER FORKS, TANNERS FORKS, POTATO DIGGING FORKS, POTATO DIGGERS, MANURE DRAGS, STONE FORKS, CLAM DIGGERS, FISH SPEARS, FISH FORKS, &c., at
PARTRIDGE FORK WORKS,
jan18-13t Leominster, Mass.

FIREMEN'S FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,
75 STATE STREET, CORNER OF KILBY STREET, BOSTON.
A NEW STOCK COMPANY
Under the Old Management, with a Paid Up Capital of
$300,000.
Are prepared to insure against Losses by Fire on good classes of property at Fair Rates.
Dwelling Houses and Furniture Insured for One, Three, or Five Years.
The Record of the Old Company for fair and honorable dealing will be maintained by the New Company.
S. G. ROGERS, President
THOMAS W. TUCKER, Secretary. jan25-13t

STOVES.
Chas. B. Wilder & Co.
Nos. 83 & 85 North St.,
BOSTON, MASS.,
Keep constantly on hand a large assortment of
COOK STOVES AND RANGES,
INCLUDING THE CELEBRATED
RICHMOND RANGE,
REED'S RANGES, EAGLE COOK STOVES
and a variety of other patterns.
—ALSO—
ALL SIZES FARMERS' BOILERS,
aug3-52t FOR WOOD AND COAL.

VENTILATION.

Ventilate your Buildings
and cure your smoky Chimneys with
HYNES'
Patent Ventilator
AND
CHIMNEY TOPS.
It is the best in the market, and is suitable to all kinds of buildings. Churches, School Houses, Factories, Barns, Stables, Dry Rooms, etc., etc.
For Chimney Top, send *inside* measure of flue. Send for Circular to
J. E. BARNEY & CO.,
26 Charlestown St., Boston.
Opposite Boston & Maine Depot. sep14-tf

STASSFURT
POTASH SALTS,
FOR
FERTILIZING.
THE undersigned having been appointed Sole Agents for New England, for the sale of this well known fertiliser, will hereafter be in
CONSTANT SUPPLY,
or will make contracts for future delivery at such times as may suit purchasers.
It is one of the
Cheapest Fertilizers
now offered for sale in the country.
For price and further information, apply in person, or by letter to
J. P. HAWES & CO.
9 CENTRAL WHARF,
au24-26t* (P. O. Box 2163.) BOSTON

D. F. GRANT,
BANKER AND BROKER.
20 Congress Street, Boston.
FOR SALE
Illinois Registered Bonds, paying 10 per cent. interest.
Indianapolis, Bloomington and Western R. R. 7s, 1st Mortgage at 90.
BONDS AND STOCKS bought and sold on commission. Special attention to orders and inquiries from out of town. jan11-13t

Mercantile Savings Institution.
NEW Bank Building, No. 387 Washington Street, Boston. This is the only Saving Bank in the State that pays interest on deposit for each and every full calendar month they remain in Bank. The Institution has a guarantee fund of $205,000.00 for the express protection of depositors. jan11-13t

NEW BOOKS FOR AGENTS.—We want agents everywhere for a new, beautifully illustrated work of the author's own adventures, entitled
WILD LIFE IN THE FAR WEST,
Comprising Incidents of Hunting and Trapping, Life as a Captive among the Comanches, Services in our War with Mexico, and with the Mexicans against Maximilian, Encounters with Apaches, Grizzly Bears, &c. Address J. LATHAM & CO., 292 Washington Street, Boston. Canvassers—Prospectus sent, postpaid, on receipt of $1.25. Sample Book by mail, $2.50. jan1-53t

Imported Ayrshire Bulls.
I HAVE a few very superior Imported Ayrshire Bull Calves for sale at low prices. Catalogues on application.
M. H. COCHRANE,
jan11-13t Compton, P. Q., Canada.

$5 TO $20 PER DAY! Agents wanted. All classes of working people, of either sex, young or old, make more money at work for us in their spare moments, or all the time than at anything else. Particulars free. Address G. STINSON & CO Portland, Me sep7-52t

$72.00 EACH WEEK. Agents wanted everywhere. Business strictly legitimate. Particulars free. Address J. WORTH, St. Louis, Mo. jan18-4t

THE MAINE CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY
Samuel H. Rhoades,
GENERAL
INSURANCE AGENT,
Insurance placed in Reliable Companies.
AGENT OF
CENTRAL MUTUAL FIRE INS. CO.
OF WORCESTER,
Who Pay all Losses, Dollar for Dollar, and no extortion in rates.
ROOM 13,
Old State House Building,
dec7-tf BOSTON.

INVESTMENTS.
KANSAS REGISTERED TOWN & COUNTY
BONDS.
TEN PER CENT INTEREST.
AN AMPLE SINKING FUND PROVIDED.
Principal and Interest Paid by the State in New York City.
FOR SALE BY
CHARLES DWIGHT,
76 State St., Boston.
AGENT FOR THE WESTERN BOND BOARD, KANSAS CITY.
President—EDW. H. ALLEN, Vice President First National Bank.
Treasurer—H. M. HOLDEN, President First National Bank.
Copies of Registration Laws forwarded upon application. Marketable securities taken in exchange, and all Express charges paid.
Coupons of Bonds sold from this office cashed at maturity without charge. jan11-52t

BONDS.
FIRST CLASS
WESTERN
City and County
BONDS
FOR SALE BY
P

The Poet's Corner.

MY LITTLE WIFE.

Our table is spread for two, to-night—
No guests our bounty share;
The damask cloth is snowy white,
The service elegant and bright,
Our china quaint and rare;
My little wife presides,
And perfect love abides.

The bread is sponge, the butter gold,
The muffins nice and hot.
What though the winds without blow cold!
The walls a little world unfold,
And the storm is soon forgot.
In the fire-light's cheerful glow
Beams a Paradise below.

A fairer picture who hath seen?
Soft lights and shadows blent;
The central figure of the scene,
She sits, my wife, my love, my queen—
Her head a little bent;
And in her eyes of blue
I read my bliss anew.

I watch her as she pours the tea,
With quiet, gentle grace;
With fingers deft, and movements free,
She mixes in the cream for me,
A bright smile on her face;
And, as she sends it up,
I pledge her in my cup.

Was ever man before so blessed?
I secretly reflect,
The passing thought she must have guessed,
For now dear lips on mine are pressed,
An arm is round my neck.
Dear treasure of my life—
God bless her—little wife!

—*Overland Monthly.*

Ladies' Department.

THE MISHAPS OF A NIGHT.

In the thriving village of Hollythorn there were, as is common in such places, a church, postoffice, a couple of stores, and a district school, the said school being taught by a young lady who had a widowed mother, and brothers and sisters to assist, in supporting.

For the sake of economy, Miss Eva Stanley "boarded around" among the scholars, and was considered a paragon among the teachers. Her father had been a respectable mechanic, but died after about two years of illness, which utterly impoverished the family. Eva had, however, she being the eldest, received a good, plain education before the great calamity came upon them, and, noble hearted and unselfish, began her work of assistfng in their support.

The last week previous to the holiday vacation, she had been boarding with a Mrs. Carpenter, who was making gigantic preparations for guests she expected from New York.

"You never met my brothers, Eva," she said, and then began to give the pretty young teacher a description of them: "There's Sam, George, and Johnny, the youngest; and such times as they have when they get out here and rusticate, as they call it! But, dear me, I don't get much rest or peace, for they are like a lot of boys let out of school. Such tricks and pranks no one ever saw! The last time they visited me together, John and Sam actually cut a pane of glass from the window, and pelted George out of my best room with snow! You see there is always a regular strife for that particular room, for the bed is a spring one, and they don't sleep on any other, in the city. But they don't get it this time, that's certain, for I intend to give you that room, and so end the controversy. I am so afraid that they will break or ruin something, that I am glad you are here."

"I had just as soon occupy some other room, Mrs. Carpenter, and do not wish to incommode your brothers—have no right to do so."

"No, you shan't, Eva!" peremptorily exclaimed her hostess; "and what is the use of your going home vacation week? You can stay here just as well as not, and do up your sewing on my machine. Your mother has enough mouths to feed, I guess, and won't miss yours."

The subject was dropped and the entire household retired early, for on the morrow the brothers, young, ardent and full of life, were to be there. But without sending any word of their intention, they had concluded to take the evening train, which would land them at Hollythorn about bedtime. George and John did so, and when safely seated in the cars, began to speculate upon the absence of Sam.

"No reason upon earth why he should not have been along," said George.

"No, for he told me this morning he would certainly be on hand," said John.

"I can't make it out, unless he has taken the five o'clock train by mistake."

"Not a bit of it," laughed John, who fancied he understood the entire programme. "It is most likely he took the train on purpose to get into Hannah's spare bedroom, and make us take up with straw ticks and feathers."

"I didn't think of that, but I reckon you are right. We must contrive to get him out somehow."

"Bet your life on that."

The brothers put their heads together and laughed merrily over some scheme for outwitting Sam, and accordingly when the train reached Hollythorn about eleven o'clock, they approached the house of their sister in a very stealthy manner.

Climbing the fence in the rear, they softly opened the window and obtained access to the pantry, where they demolished a mince pie and a quantity of doughnuts. Then, with appetites appeased, they removed their boots and prepared to investigate the "best room," stole along the hall, which was dimly lighted by the moon, ascended the stairs and reached the door. The faint rays of the moon disclosed a chair piled with clothing, and they could distinctly trace the outlines of a form beneath the bedclothes, and had not the remotest idea but that Sam was enjoying sweet repose upon Hannah's best bed.

A few whispered words were exchanged, and then as softly and lightly as if shod with down, they drew near.

"All ready!" whispered George.

Quick as thought they seized upon the form of the sleeper, bedclothes and all, bore it swiftly down the stairs, out into the snow, and were just about to deposit it in a huge drift, when a shrill scream broke the stillness of the night, and oh! horrors—it was that of a woman! And in their consternation they dropped their burden plump into the middle of the drift.

"Good heavens!" exclaimed George, "it isn't Sam, but some woman, as I am a sinner, and she has fainted. Run and call Hannah."

With admirable presence of mind he lifted the limp form of Eva Stanley and carried her into the house. But her cry had already been heard, and the inmates came rushing into the hall just as he appeared.

"George! John! for goodness sake what does this mean, and who have you there?" asked Mrs. Carpenter in a breath.

"Blessed if I know," began George; "thought it was Sam, so we concluded to give him a douse in the snow, for getting into the best bed and trying to euchre us. Quick! I believe she has fainted."

"Just like you!" scolded Hannah, as she assisted in depositing Eva once more on the bed from which she had been so unceremoniously taken: "beginning your tricks upon each other before you fairly get into the house. Clear out now!"

Long before she was done with her tirade, her discomfited brothers had betaken themselves down stairs, where they almost went into hysterics over the joke.

"A pretty kettle of fish," said George, rolling over the floor and letting off peal after peal of laughter.

"I should think it was," replied John, holding his sides. "Oh! my! But what in the dickens is to be done about it, and who do you suppose she is, George?"

"Some guest of Hannah's, of course, and young and pretty at that. I don't know how it is with you, but I feel particularly small and extremely cheap—would sell myself at a very low price."

"Cheap," roared John; "cheap? I would actually give myself away this blessed minute and throw something in to boot. What are we to do? I can't say; but I believe I shall dig out of this place and get back to the city before morning. I hain't got the courage to face the music, so I'll get up and get."

He began hastily putting on his boots, and would have put his threat into execution, but for the appearance of Hannah, who at once asserted her authority.

"You are not going a step," said she; "but I don't wonder you feel ashamed of yourselves. What on earth possessed you, is more than I can tell."

"That's right Han, pitch in—fire away! I'll take any amount just now, for I am meek as a lamb. But who is it we have played so shabby a trick on?" replied George.

"Trick! I should think it was. Why, it is Eva Stanley, just as nice a young teacher as ever lived. She is our schoolteacher, and this is her week to board here; and I knew you boys would be squabbling over that room as usual, so I put her in there, little thinking that you would come in such a stealthy manner."

"Eva Stanley? Whew! A pretty schoolteacher!" and repeating his sister's words, he gave a lugubrious groan.

"Has she recovered!" questioned John, vainly endeavoring to restrain his laughter at the wry faces his brother was making.

"Yes, I soon brought her to; but I don't believe the poor girl will ever get over her fright. She said that the first thing she knew she was being lifted up and carried out, and she was so much alarmed that she couldn't utter a sound; but the moment the cold air struck her she realized that she was being abducted or something of the kind, and had just time to utter a scream when she fainted. It is too bad. I shouldn't wonder if she had taken her death, being dragged out of a warm bed this time of night and dropped into a snowdrift in that fashion. No wonder she cried, poor thing."

"Cried, did she?" repeated George with a groan.

"I should think she did. I just took her in my arms and let her have her cry out, while I explained how she happened to be mistaken for Sam, and became the victim of your mad pranks."

"That was neat in you, Han. I'm awful glad you hugged the poor little thing. Wish you had given her a brotherly squeeze for me—'pon my honor, I do. Oh, dear! I am in sackcloth and ashes from this time, henceforth and forever," replied George, with another dismal groan.

"And how on earth do you expect us to stay and take the consequences?" asked John, beginning to look serious. "I am for taking myself off instanter. I had rather face a masked battery than this pretty teacher, after making such fools of ourselves."

"I don't care if you had," answered his sister, indignantly. "The only way to do is to brave it out both of you, and apologize for your rudeness. She is not a bit stupid, but pleasant and merry, and no doubt you will have a jolly laugh over the affair."

"But Sam? How are we to get along with him? You know well enough, Han, we shall never hear the last of it from him; that it will be brought up at all times, and in all places."

"If you two can keep the secret, I'll find a way to silence Bridget, and it is a subject Eva will not care to have discussed, and fortunately my husband is away from home. So go to bed and rest contented."

She showed them to the room she had intended them to occupy, and soon the house was once more hushed in slumber.

Meanwhile, their brother Sam had reached the depot a few minutes too late. He found the train he was to have taken already gone, but upon consulting a time-table, he ascertained that another train started two hours later, and so decided to take it. He figured to himself, as he impatiently crowded into an empty seat and was being whirled along at a rapid rate, how snugly his brothers had ensconced themselves in the best room, which by right belonged to him, he being the eldest, and consummated a plan to get even with them.

Sometime after midnight he was deposited at Hollythorn, and reaching his sister's house he scouted around until he found a way of entrance into the kitchen, where he deposited his luggage and removed his boots. Then he quietly stole up stairs, and opened the door of the best room. "Sure enough," thought he, "my fine chaps, you are in clover!" for there were signs not to be mistaken of the room being occupied. Garments were lying upon chairs, and the bed was pressed by slumbering forms.

To think of coping with their united strength by dragging them forth, was not practicable; but there stood the pitcher of water, and he knew that a good dousing with the icy fluid would bring them out quick enough.

"If I can't find my old quarters," he chuckled, "you shan't; that I'm determined on. So here goes."

He lifted the pitcher, approached the bed, raised it high, and suddenly dashed the entire contents upon the sleeper.

Such a torrent of screams as he had never before heard rang through the house, and before Sam could collect his scattered senses, door after door was opened, and Hannah, George and John rushed in, clothed in nearly apparel—Hannah with a frightened look on her face, and a lamp in her trembling hand, that revealed the entire scene.

There, sitting up in bed, with her hair dripping like a mermaid's, her nightdress deluged, her face colorless and looking terror, was the young schoolmistress; and there was Sam, with the empty pitcher in his hand, the very picture of imbecility, staring about like an idiot at Miss Eva and the havoc he had made.

Hannah, George and John, instantly comprehended the situation, and the latter, at the command of their sister, dragged Sam away, while she assisted the drenched and terrified girl to dry clothing, and then took her to her own room and bed, explaining, for the second time, the mishaps of the night.

"I'll keep you with me, now, my poor child," she said, though with difficulty keeping back her laughter. "Those boys are nicely come up with, at any rate; and if it wasn't for your having been so terribly frightened, and the way my best bed has been used, I wouldn't care. They do nothing, when they come home, but study up some trick to play upon each other; and she continued she, by way of apology, "they are so confined in their stores and offices, during most of the year, that they let entirely loose when they get out here. But you are safe, now."

Hannah kissed her charge, and went down to see about the boys, who, as soon as they were fairly shut in the regions below, began to thoroughly appreciate the joke; and now that Sam was as deep in the mud as they were in the mire, gave no quarter.

"I'll be blamed if I know what it means," said Sam, looking in confusion at his brothers, who were rolling and kicking in convulsions of laughter.

"Wait," replied George, "until Han comes, and see if you don't find out!"—and he gave vent to another peal.

Sam had not smiled, and sat looking the very picture of discomfort and perplexity, but answered:

"For heaven's sake, hold on, boys! I am willing to admit that I am badly sold—gone dog cheap to the highest bidder; but hold up long enough to tell a fellow what it means."

"Means? Of course I will," continued George, still holding his sides. "It means that you have stolen like a thief into Miss Eva Stanley's bed chamber—who is a young lady teacher and 'boarding around'; that this is her week here; and thinking it was your humble servant and Johnny snug in bed, you attempted to drown us out, and made a grand mistake. How do you like it, Sam?"

"I confess I see the point, but I can't see the joke. It is a most outrageous shame."

At this juncture Hannah came in and began rating them soundly, thereby letting out the whole story. It was Sam's turn to then laugh. He struggled manfully to retain his gravity, but the whole thing was so supremely ludicrous that he was compelled to join his brothers.

Miss Eva was not visible at the breakfast table the next morning, and Hannah announced that she was sick with a severe cold; whereupon George groaned out and called for a handful of peas to put in Sam's shoes, while that gentleman looked very contrite, and declared he wanted to shoot himself. But Hannah had her unruly crew under her thumb for once in her life, and had the satisfaction also of seeing them behave with something like dignity. They appeared to never forget that there was an invalid in the house, and went on tiptoe about; and Sam, who seemed to take the entire responsibility upon his shoulders, set off slyly to New York for choice fruit and flowers, which he induced his sister to convey to the young lady, with the most abject apologies and regrets.

In a couple of days Eva was able to come down stairs. She was looking very pale, but lovely, and, of course, divinely, when presented by Mrs. Carpenter to her three brothers, who behaved quite well, considering the unpleasantness of their situation.

But Sam, who had broken ice by means of the presents, was the most at ease, and by virtue of his age and experience, constituted himself the propitiator, and was constantly on hand to offer Miss Eva a thousand nameless attentions; and before the week was out, John declared that "Sam was done for!"

"Gone completely!" echoed George, with one of his dismal groans. "Just think of it, Han—if it had not been for that pitcher of water, Sam would have been whole hearted this blessed minute. The fellow meets lots of girls much prettier than she every day, and lots of stamps, too. They say that pity is twin sister to love, and I believe it."

"Sour grapes!" whispered John, pinckering his mouth.

Hannah, singing Eva's praises, commended Sam's choice. She recommended marriage in all of them as being the only sobering process she was acquainted with. It is a piece of advice, however, they did not appear inclined to follow, notwithstanding Sam's happy lot with the pretty schoolmistress.

She often reminds her brother-in-laws of her unceremonious introduction to a snowdrift and dead of night, and they retaliate with the shower bath given her by Sam.

☞ A man is known to his dog by the smell, to his tailor by his coat, to his friend by the smile; each of these know him, but how little or how much depends on the dignity of the intelligence. That which is truly and indeed characteristic of the man is known only to God.—*Ruskin.*

LIVING TOGETHER.

Dispositions differ to such an extent, that for two persons to live together happily for ten, twenty, or thirty years, would seem incredible, did not occasional cases authenticate the statement. By living together happily, we do not understand a calm, passive existence unbroken by a single dissenting word or look, because persons who succeed in winning such a reputation are incapacitated for happiness, since they can adapt themselves to so stupid a mode of living. Occasional differences of opinion indicate mutual vitality, and, when backed by common sense and self-control, are no drawback to a peaceful life.

Living together in its most important relation—namely, the marital—is an art which can only ripen into perfection through the possession of certain requisites on the part of the wife. Among these an even temper, a clear head, a certain pretence of giving in to the enemy—mind—only a pretence—are the most important.

As wives, women can wield the sceptre, but must never let even the tip end of it be seen. The secret lies in quietly having it all their own way, taking good care to let the enemy think he is master of the position. We use the word enemy here to imply not enmity of husband to wife, but of man to woman's assumption of superiority.

There are genuine good husbands, and there are opposite extremes. These latter can be forced to be good husbands, in spite of themselves. Men possess less stamina than is generally credited to them, and are so easily moulded by feminine influence, that a good, loving wife can refine and ennoble the most hardened specimen of a husband if she studies his peculiarities and lays siege to them.

There are irritable men by nature, who are denied the privilege of being irritable. There are penurious men, whose houses overflow with every luxury money can purchase. They cannot understand it themselves; they suspect this undertow of power, but it is too strong for them. They can find no reasonable cause of complaint; their homes are models of attractive comfort; they love to dwell therein; they pine for them when absent. Their slippers are always ready for their weary feet at night; the biscuits are nowhere so light, the coffee nowhere so delectable, as at their own cosy breakfast tables; they are the happiest of men, and all because their wives have the sense to apply military tactics to the household *regime*, and reap the reward of their management by living peacefully with men, who, in the hands of less skillful women, would be simply unbearable.

Without any disparagement of the opposite sex—utterly discountenancing Mrs. Caudle, Xantippe, and similar viragos—we do protest against any woman meriting a husband till she knows how to manage one.

An old lady once remarked to us: "If you ever have a husband, remember three separate advices, which I have learned from experience: Never question him about his business till he first broaches the subject; never trouble him with domestic affairs when you see a shadow on his face; and last, but not least, always have his dinner smoking hot in the very nick of time."

Matrimonial felicity would be strikingly enhanced were these sensible advices accepted and followed—not in the delusion that man is a demi-god to be fawned on and flattered, a most complex mixture of good and evil. Simply held in durance, a formidable beast; but rightly managed, a blessing to the family circle—a blessing to the world.—*Lady's Journal.*

AFTER THE WINTER RAIN.

After the winter rain,
Sing, robin!—sing, swallow!
Grasses are in the lane,
Buds and flowers will follow.

Woods shall ring, blithe and gay,
With bird trill and morrow,
Though the sky weep to-day,
And the winds are bitter.

Though deep call unto deep
As calls the thunder,
And white the billows leap
The tempest under;

Softly the waves shall come
Up the long, bright beaches,
With dainty flowers of foam
And tenderest speeches.
* * * *
After the wintry pain,
And the long, long sorrow,
Sing, heart!—for thee again
Joy comes with the morrow.

—*Overland Monthly.*

PERSONAL HEROISM.

One night, in the long galleries of an immense convent at Castro, during the retreat of Sir John Moore immediately preceding the battle of Corunna, several thousand British soldiers were sleeping heavily, exhausted by the fatigues of the past day, and by the evening of the morrow which had followed.

The corridor below was completely filled by the horses of the men and of the artillery. These were packed so closely that there was no room to pass between them, and there was but one door of entrance.

At a late hour of the night two officers who were crossing the bridge of Castro, perceived that one of the shutters of the convent was on fire, and that the flame was fast spreading to the roof above. The peril was extreme, for had a chance spark fallen on the straw beneath, the whole would have blazed up at once, and hundreds at least of those senseless men who lay sleeping there in the deep stupor of intoxication must inevitably have perished.

Not a moment was to be lost. One of the officers, Captain Lloyd, of the Forty-third—his name deserves to be remembered—made a sign to his companion to keep silence; then ran on fast to the convent, and making his way into the corridor, leaped on the back of the nearest horse. On he sprang from horse to horse—for there was no room to move in any other way; it was giddy work, but with strong courage and steady nerves he went bounding on over that living bridge.

Well he knew that in time the flames are licking the rafters of the roof above, and the wood is old and rotten. One more flying leap and he has gained the window; the next moment he is tearing away frantically at the shutter, to loosen it from its hinges.

It was a moment of fearful excitement. One false step now, one cruel spark, and all his work would be in vain; he and the doomed men he was trying to save would alike have been crushed or stifled or burnt to death amongst the falling ruins. Still he kept his place at that giddy height, tugging away manfully at the shutter. Well done, Captain Lloyd! Hold on but a little longer, keep a good heart, and you will save them yet.

The fire helped rather than hindered him now, charring and loosening the framework, which at any other time it would have taken a very Hercules to move. He worked on against time through moments which seemed like hours, till at *last* he had wrenched the shutter from its hinges, and the mass of flaming wood was loose in his hands. Then, with one final desperate effort, he hurled it down as far as he could, into the courtyard beneath, there to smoulder and burn itself into a white ash, and do no harm to any one.

We fancy the man's heart must have beat fast and proudly when he looked down afterwards and realized what he had done—done all alone too, and silently; without a single cheer to help him all the time.—*Tinsley's Magazine.*

POLITENESS OF GREAT MEN.

The greatest men in the world have been noted for their politeness. Indeed, many have owed their greatness mainly to their popular manners, which induced the people whom they pleased to give them an opportunity to show their power.

Many years ago, the errand boy, employed by a publishing house in a great city was sent to procure from Edward Everett the proof sheets of a book which he had been examining. The boy entered in fear and trembling the vast library, lined from floor to ceiling, with books; he stood in awe of this famous man, and dreaded to meet him.

But Mr. Everett turning from the desk where he was writing, received the lad with reassuring courtesy, bade him sit down, chatted kindly as he looked for the proof sheets, and asked, "Shall I put a paper round them for you?" as politely as if his visitor were the President. The boy departed in a very comfortable state of mind; he had been raised in his own esteem by Mr. Everett's kindness, and he has never forgotten the lesson it taught him.

POLAR REGIONS.

Intensely cold, stormy and ice bound, as all nature is at the Arctic circle, there are evidences in multiplied forms to prove that the climate in those inhospitable abodes of the white bear and walrus was once as mild, warm and delightful as the island of Cuba. Vegetable productions of the soil, so ancient we have no data to reckon from, are abundant. These grew luxuriantly where it is now almost impossible to sustain either plants or animals with all the appliances of art, and from their structure are particularly fitted for a tropical climate. This statement requires no proof, since the archives of geology verify it by preserved specimens in the rocks, the land and caverns of the frozen North. What forces produced the change from a mild to a terrific reign of storms in their most fitful exhibitions of resistless fury? The polarity of the earth must have been suddenly changed.

The Home Circle.

SOCIAL GAMES.

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

Reading some three weeks since in the *Ploughman* an editorial upon Social Games, and a description of one game in particular which I believe you termed "the writing game", the other evening Aunt Jerusha and myself proposed to father and mother, Uncle Henry and the children to make the attempt to play it. All, at once, agreed; and paper was cut into strips, pencils were provided, and seated around the great table in the dining room, we made our first effort. Aunt Jerusha explained it to Uncle Henry, who happened to be absent when the article was read from the *Ploughman*. Some of us at first were timid and declined to write; but Aunt Jerusha assured all that they need have no hesitancy, as no one would know who wrote the question or the answer as all the papers when gathered were to be thoroughly mixed and read at random. So we all commenced by writing a question and putting a word beneath it. After the questions were all written, the papers were gathered and again distributed. Then followed a silence of about five minutes, when all indicating that their questions had been answered, the papers were again gathered and Aunt Jerusha was elected to read them aloud to the family. All of us not being very good writers, it took a little time to decipher some of the words—but in a short time all was in readiness, and Aunt Jerusha read them in her distinct and musical voice. As one after another was read, there was great merriment; and a constant guessing "Who wrote that"? But no one pleaded guilty to the writing, and when the last one was read we all voted to play the game a second time. And this we did; and a third and a fourth time, too, until little Charlie fell asleep in his chair and mother suggested to Aunt Jerusha that we had better adjourn to bed. Now, Mr. *Ploughman*, I have copied off a few of the questions and answers; some of the best, I think, to give you and the readers of the *Ploughman* an idea of our success; and in the hopes that they will try the game and enjoy it as well as we did.

Q.—"Is it possible to vaccinate an over sufficient number of times?" Small pox.

Ans.—"This question you ask me; ask me, who unlearned
In medical lore, the first path have not turned;
So how can I say, whether one time or eight,
Is enough for us mortals to be vaccinate.
Small pox is an evil; a radical cure
No medical skill, e'er yet has made sure;
The best that can be done, is to lessen the fear,
Which the sound of the name brings back to the ear.
By lessening the fear, our joy is increased,
And many a care of the day is released.
So fill up your measure of joy to the brim,
If dire vaccination is nought but a whim."

Q.—"Why are women faster talkers than men?" *Ba.*

Ans.—"It has been said by somebody that women being debarred the privilege of getting in lexicons, chewing and smoking tobacco, &c., &c., have from time immemorial been obliged to defend themselves with their tongues, and this is supposed to account for their being able to say "Jackson Goaliah Valencourt Robinson," whilst a man could only say 'Ba'."

Q.—"What if women did not scold?" *Virtuous.*

Ans.—"Why, if women did not scold,
The world no virtuous men would hold.
'Tis active use of woman's tongue
Dispels the vice in men among.
Thus e'er shall woman's mission be,
From man the vice of man to free."

Q.—"How long do you want to live? *Trumpet.*

Ans.—"While the hearts of my friends are true and warm,
And will aid in boasting the world's cold storm;
While the good and ill I meet on my way,
Shall make me grow wiser from day unto day;
While one sad life is cheered by the good I have done,
I will jog on contented, though almost unknown;
And I ask not, I wish not, for *trumpet* or fame,
For virtue alone is all that I claim."

Q.—"Who was the wisest woman?" *Yarn.*

Ans.—"That is impossible to say,
We see so many every day;
The one that *yarns* could fastest use,
Is the one of all, that I should choose."

Q.—"Do you love Tommy Dodd?" *Righteousness.*

Ans.—"This question and answer are so at variance, I can perceive neither wit, wisdom or *righteousness* in the attempt to combine the two."

Q.—"What shall we live for?" *Delight.*

Ans.—"Live for the good we can do to the race;
Live to adorn the home with our grace;
Live to help forward the cause of the right;
Live to the world to be a *delight*."

Q.—"Which is the best band in Boston?" *Musician.*

Ans.—"Being a *musician* myself and a married lady, I should say a good hus-*band* was the best band in Boston."

Q.—"Should you pass from the life of man to the life of a brute, in which of the three creation would you prefer to be represented?" *Memorializations.*

Ans.—"I wouldn't be a cat, for I wouldn't like to mew,
Nor would I be a dog to bark as most dogs do;
I wouldn't be a sheep, to bleat the whole day long;
I wouldn't be a rooster, to crow at early dawn.
I think in *memorialization*, of all that's good and true,
I'd be a noble horse, I think so; wouldn't you?
The burthens of my master I'd carry all the day,
And prove myself a blessing while with him I stay."

Then though I might be only a poor and simple horse,
I know that when I died, some one would feel remorse.

I have copied only a few of the many funny and entertaining questions, words and answers which were given. They were all written on the spur of the moment and I have copied them without one verbal alteration. We have enjoyed the game so much, that mother has given Aunt Jerusha permission to invite in several of our neighbors some evening next week to take part with us in the enjoyment. We have never had a game before in which father would join us; for he has the old Puritanic prejudice against games. But he likes this one; and says, it is so improving to our minds that he shall never object to be one of our number whenever we choose to play it.

Aunt Jerusha is talking of getting up some family Charades as you have suggested; but mother thinks we lack the requisite ability. If we get them up and have good success, I may write about them to the *Ploughman*. We all thank the *Ploughman* for the writing game. HENRIETTA.

Rutland, Vt., Jan. 28, 1873.

HOW THE SPIDER SPINS HIS WEB

Most people have too great an antipathy to spiders to spend even a few minutes in watching them. But we must confess that we rather cultivate their acquaintance, as they catch and devour our enemies, the flies. The spinning apparatus of a spider is very curious. On the under part of the body are several small prominences covered with many hundreds of small holes, through which exudes a gummy substance which hardens on exposure to the air. Thus each little hole produces a thread of inconceivable fineness; and when these many threads are joined together, they form what we see as a single thread. When a spider wishes to form a web, if he belongs to the race of geometrical spiders, which build a wheel shaped web, he selects some convenient place, and proceeds to lay the foundation by attaching the spokes of this wheel to proper objects; he then commences at the centre formed by the crossing of these lines and travels round and round, spinning his web, employing his feelers for guides as to distance. He always uses the outer web as a pathway, and every time he crosses one of the spokes he attaches his line to it. When he has finished, he takes his position at the centre, head downward, and waits for the unlucky insect which he is sure will soon happen along. As soon as he perceives that some awkward fly has run against his delicate framework, he bounces out on him and quickly ties him fast hand and foot, so that he may devour him at leisure. But it is not alone for laying traps and tying fast his unlucky victims that the spider uses his web. If he wants to cross from one tree to another, or from one side of a stream to the opposite, he uses the web for a bridge. This he constructs by taking a favorable position and then spinning a web, which he lets float in the wind. As soon as it strikes some object to which it adheres, he pulls it, to see that it is secure, and then crosses on this single line. This is an achievement in engineering that far surpasses the suspension bridges built by human skill. Here is a bridge, oftentimes from fifty to one hundred feet long, spun by so insignificant an insect that we may have some trouble to find him, yet strong enough to bear his weight safely. When a spider wishes to descend from an elevation, he attaches the end of his web to some object and then boldly launches off, spinning as he goes. When he gets down, he cuts the line and leaves it, unless he wishes to return immediately, in which case he coils it up and takes it along as he ascends.—*To-Day.*

Written expressly for the Massachusetts Ploughman.

WOMAN'S DRESS.

BY MARIA A. ELMORE.

ARTICLE NUMBER II.

Now do not think, dear women, while making these strictures on woman's dress, that we regard you as wholly and exclusively to blame. For this as for all other evils which befall humanity men are at fault; and we cast no more of the blame upon you than we do upon them. We know very well who makes the poor miserable trashy shoes that women have to wear; we know very well who invented corsets, grecian bend, and many other ungainly articles of woman's attire! Well if women would't *buy* them men wouldn't *make* them; they will make only such as they can sell. This may be true, but O man, the larger share of the blame justly falls on you. If you did not make such shoes, of course they could not become the fashion. Should you make only good, broad, sensible shoes, good, broad, sensible shoes would of necessity be the fashionable, and no young lady would object to wearing them. In fact we think that the inability to buy a decently made pair of shoes is very much greater than their aversion to purchasing them. If she desires a comfortable shoe and one in which her foot will have any ease it is almost impossible to procure it, and even if one can be obtained large enough in all respects, how long does it last? How shabbily is it put together! paper stuffed in to make it complete in place of leather! Two weeks will wear out almost any shoe that is made for women now-a-days. What we demand of you, gentlemen, is that you make us better shoes; make them as well as you make men's; put as good stock into them as you do your own, and not those little, thin, flimsy, flabby articles which afford little more protection than so much brown paper. And you, O ladies, we admonish you not to oppress and circumscribe your feet. "The good time is coming" when articles of dress for woman will be made in a common sense style, but until that time arrives procure for yourselves apparel as comfortable as possible, but do not, if else can be found, subject and reduce yourselves to a state of unnatural compression. The world is large; there is room enough in it for every one of your bodies to grow and develope to its utmost capacity. Man has always felt as though he must dress for his own warmth and comfort, but that woman must dress—well how? for *her* warmth and comfort? to please herself? Nay, rather, but to please him. We do not think however that they by any means always dress as sensibly as they might. We do not think it the height of wisdom and discretion to envelope one's self in the hottest midsummer's day in a suit of darkest black. In some respects men might well imitate women in dress, but condemning comfort and warmth in cold weather we think the reverse is the case. Think not, either that we are insensible to the charms of dress. We doubt if any one can be wholly. We would like to see women always tastefully and handsomely dressed. But we think that the main bulk of clothing for the nether limbs should be confined to each limb separately the same as men's, and that it should come down not merely just below the knee, but to the ankle. "Well what would you do with skirts? would you banish them entirely from a lady's wardrobe?" No we would not; if they are thought desirable let them be worn; but we *do* think that they should always be *short*, very much shorter than any that are worn now, so short indeed that there will not be the slightest danger of drabbling in snow or mud.

For what a bore long skirts are! When snow is on the ground a woman must always hold up her skirts or else run the risk of getting a violent cold by not holding them up. Be the weather bad from any cause whatever, she must always be subjected to either one or the other; to do it in some instances is utterly impossible, and even when possible is irksome and disagreeable. Then again when a lady goes to step into a carraige or a railway car, how often it is that long skirts are a great incumbrance. We saw one very recently who fell and well nigh broke a limb just by stepping on her skirt when attempting to enter a carriage, and indeed fractured limbs are not a very uncommon result of this practice of wearing long skirts. See that lady and gentleman walking side by side! The walking is very bad but what cares the man? His boots are made of such material and in such a manner that he is not obliged to resort to the use of rubbers which cramp and draw the feet so fearfully in order to insure them against the inroads of water; he is so dressed that all the mud and snow do not trouble him in the least; he has no skirts to hold up and he can travel on with no thought or care as to his clothing. How is it with the lady? Can she get along as free of all anxiety in this respect? Instead must she not hold up and look after her skirts all the time? look this way and that way and all ways to see that they do not fall down? Does she not have to be constantly on the *qui vive*? We long to see the day when the necessity shall have become extinct; it is a despot which has held dominion long enough; women ought not to be longer in bondage to it, and we think it a shame to the age in which we live that a woman cannot walk the streets as free and as untrammelled of any obstacle in dress as a man. But were a woman to appear on the street attired in some such way as we have herein described she would be sneeringly gazed at, and become the laughing stock of every passerby. It is pitiable and lamentable that good sense, taste, and judgment cannot be carried into practice without exposing the wearer to so much scorn and ridicule. So long as this is the case, woman ought not to be expected to dress in any such way as we have suggested. No true woman wishes to dress so peculiarly odd and singular, so much out of the prevailing style, as to attract attention from every one whom she may happen to meet; she will not voluntarily make herself a by-word and theme for popular gossip. We see but one way out of the difficulty, and that is to make it *fashionable* to dress sensibly; then it would be all right; no one would hesitate to fall in with it; people would be *zealous* to avail themselves of the advantages arising from having the body sufficiently shielded from the dangers and severities of our cold and trying winters; were it only fashionable, no valid objection would be raised against it, but trespassing far beyond the precincts of fashion as a provocation for bringing down upon woman's head harsh and cruel epithets in unstinted measure; and this the natural heart of every true woman is instinctively prone to evade even in the mildest form.

We do not speak of this matter or make these propositions for the sake of creating a sensation. Far from it. We regard it as too sacred and solemn a matter to be thus desecrated. Upon the dress of the body depends to a great extent the physical health and upon physical health depends our mental, moral and spiritual growth. And more than all when we remember that on the condition of women of the present day depends largely the health, strength, life, manhood and womanhood of all generations yet to be, this subject becomes one of profoundest and paramount significance and preeminently worthy of our highest consideration.

CONCERNING "GIVING IN."—It is better to yield a little than quarrel a great deal. The habit of standing up, as people call it, for their (little) rights is one of the most disagreeable and undignified in the world. Life is too short for a perpetual bickering which attends such a disposition; and, unless a very momentous affair indeed, where other people's claims and interests are involved, we question if it is not wiser, happier and more prudent to yield somewhat of our precious rights, than squabble to maintain them. True wisdom is first pure, then peaceable, and gentle.

Domestic Economy.

VALUABLE RECIPES.

VERY NICE GINGERBREAD.—Simmer together one cup of molasses and one-half cup of sugar a few minutes. Pour it on to one-half cup each of butter and lard with a little salt. Add one egg, two-thirds of a cup of milk, one teaspoon of soda, one of ginger and three cups of flour; beat well together and you have something worth the effort.

H. M. L.

ONE WITH THEE.

Nearer, nearer, Heavenly Savior,
Draw my cold, unwilling soul—
Closer, ever closer, hold me,
Till thy touch have made me whole;
Oh, to think that I may be,
Blessed Jesus, one with Thee!

When the world my love allureth,
When I say to Thee, "Depart,"
Heed me not, but let Thy sunshine
Melt my hard, ungrateful heart;
Till, like birds beneath the wing,
Unto thee I turn and cling.

If the flesh, O Lord, should tempt me,
Show thy wounds in foot and hands;
With the look that softened Peter,
Lord, before my spirit stand,
Till all dark deeds I forsake,
Loathing each for thy dear sake.

When the devil strives to win me,
Hide me, hide me, Savior blest;
Draw me, in a closer union,
Closer to Thy heavenly breast;
For no evil thing shall e'er
Reach the soul that's anchored there.

—*Religious Monthly.*

DR. JOHNSON.

A lady, who first met Dr. Johnson at a dinner party, thus describes him: He was a strange, terrible looking man, quite unlike the picture I had formed of him. He had a massive rugged face, full of scams and scars; black lustre eyes; a capacious mouth, which he contorted by whistling and gurglings; great thick arms, which he could not keep still; and a large person that rolled about like one who stands upon a tossing ship. He looked sternly around the table. I met his gaze, and I quailed before it. But some fish being put before him, he fell to it with fearful eagerness, like a starving man, cramming great portions of it into his mouth, and chewing with such energy that the veins about his forehead stood like ropes. 'Twas a disgusting sight to see him eat. He tore, he did not cut his meat; he mixed strange messes in his plate of vinegar, butter sauce and claret; and some of the veal being set before him, what does he do but calls aloud for a lemon and brown sugar, with which he plentifully anointed the slices, and then fell to cramming them with a noisy, snorting vehemence bereft me of appetite. A gentleman at the table said he was no believer in ghosts; Dr. Johnson answered: "Sir, I would have you careful how you reject a belief which the greater number of mankind in all ages have very readily entertained. Besides, sir, you are to consider that the testimony of the Scriptures is with the believer in supernatural existences. But the real way to put it is this: Suppose, sir you should be obliged to lodge in a house that was haunted by ghosts, how would you sleep?"

A NEGRO WEDDING.

The bride and groom, answering to the names of Andrew and Susy, were field hands of unspeakably pure Guinea blood, and both of them had passed the first half century of life. Their dress, however, showed that they had not yet entirely eschewed the follies of their youth, for though rude and cheap, as became their condition, it was nevertheless not unembellished with those bits of gewgaws and glaring finery of bright colored ribbon and tie in which the negro delights.

With the most decorous gravity the preacher began:

"Andrew, duz you lub dis yere woman?"

"I duz so!" was the emphatic reply.

"Will you promise to stick close to her from time and t'arnity, renouncin' all odders an' cleavin' only to her for eber an' eber an' amen?"

"I will dat."

"Will you lub, honor an' 'bey"—

"Hold on dar, Ole Jack!"—here interrupted the groom, with no little show of indignation—"'taint no use talkin' to dis nigger 'bout 'beying de wimmen. Can't promise to 'bey no wimmen folks cn'y cept ole Missis!"

"Silence dar! you owdumptious nigger!" roared the wrathful preacher; "what fur you go fur spile de ceremony? You done spilt all de grabbity of de 'casion? Dis yere's on'y matter of form an' in'spensable to de 'casion! Now don't you go fur to open your black mouf till de time fur you to speak!"

"Will you promise to lub, honor, an' 'bey"—(Andrew still shaking his head ominously at the obnoxious word)—"dis yere nigger, Susy, furnishin' her wid all tings needful fur her comfort an happiness; cherishin' and purtectin' her from all sufferin' an sorrer, an' makin' smooze de path of all her precedin' days to come?"

"I spose I must say yes to dat," said Andrew, meekly.

"Den I pronounce dese yere two couples to be man an' wife! an' whom de Lord hab jo